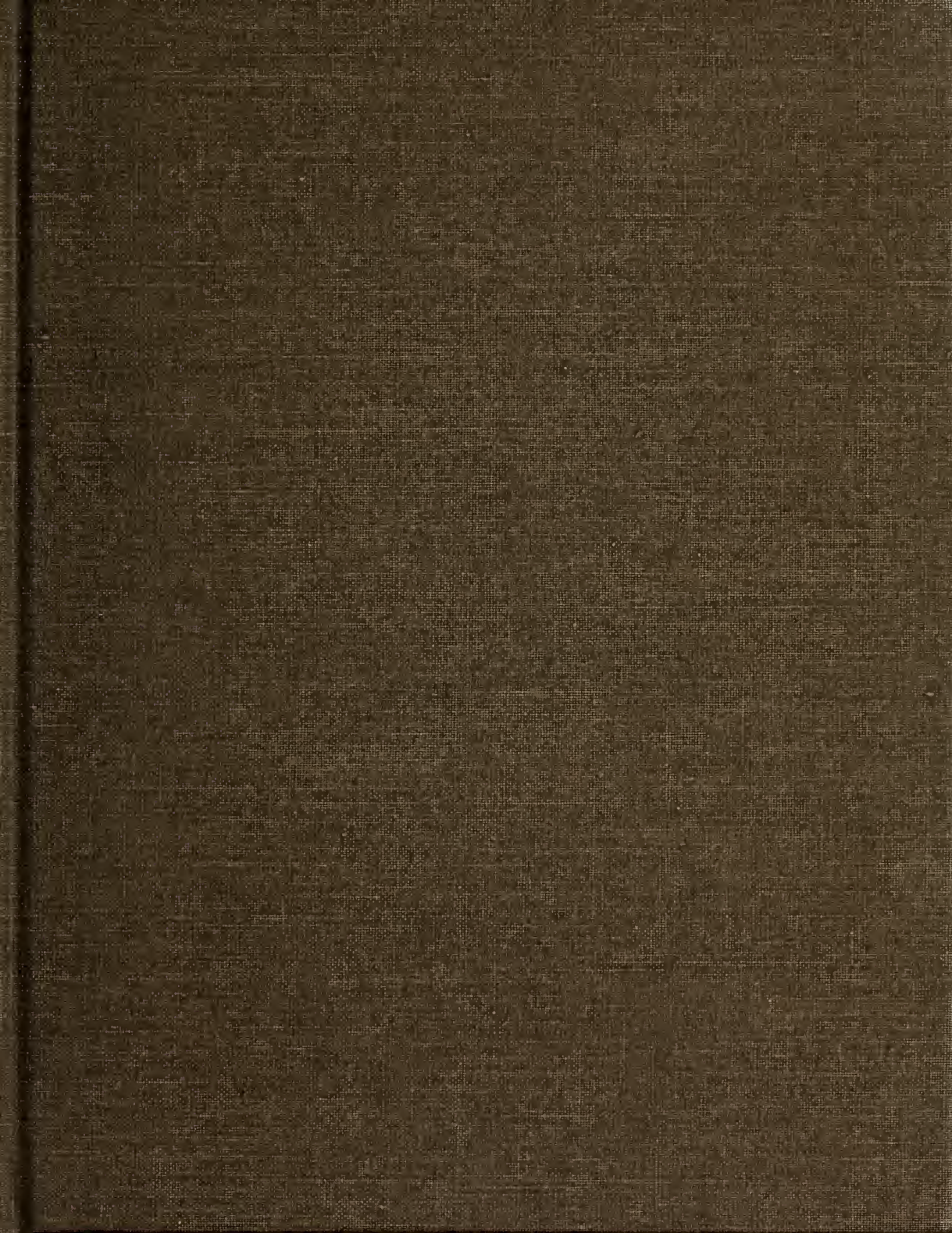
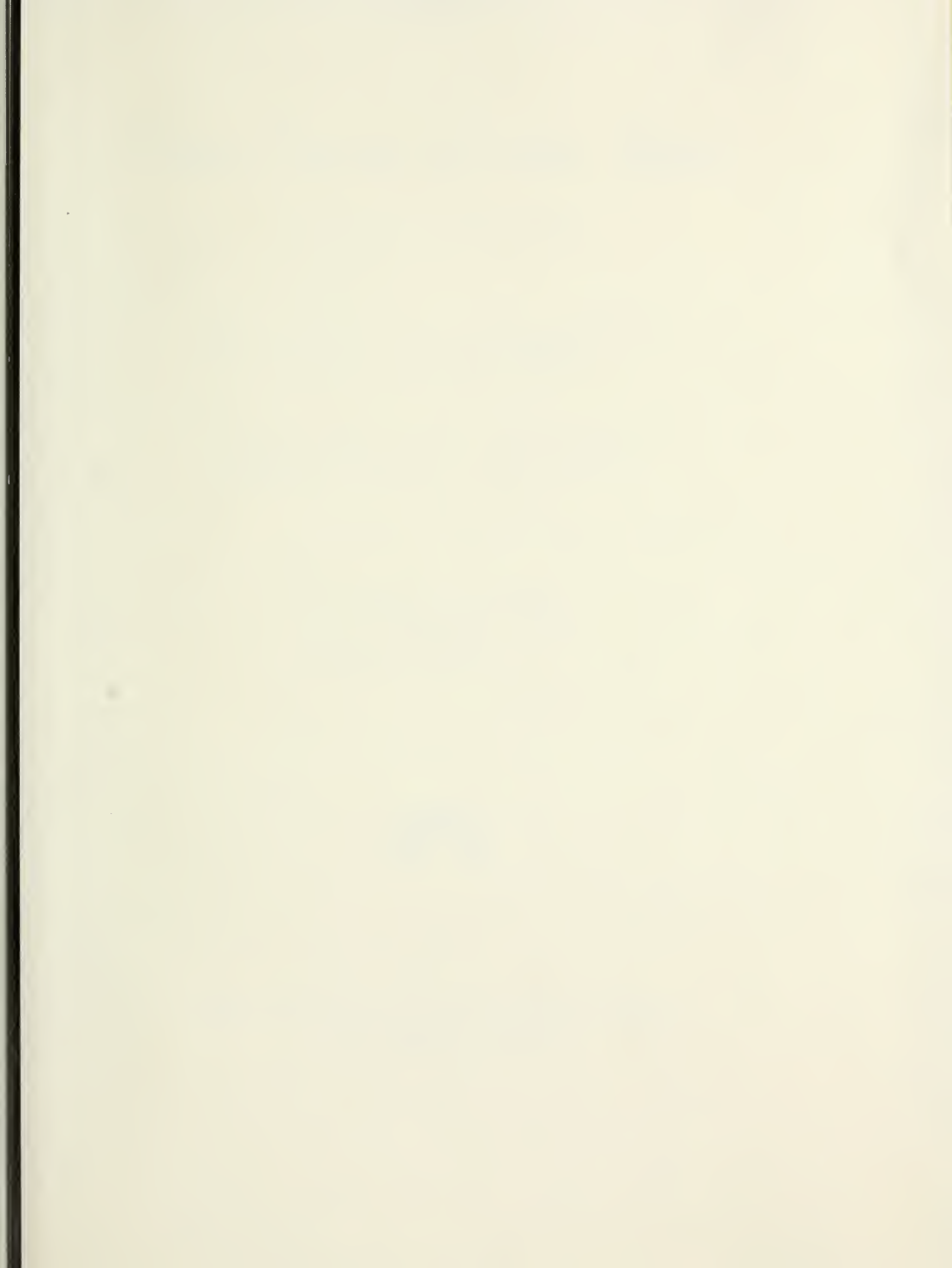












The Christ of the Ages

IN WORDS OF HOLY WRIT

*Being the Story of Jesus drawn from the Old and
New Testaments, and Compiled by*

WM. NORMAN GUTHRIE

Τίς ἐστιν ὁ νικῶν τὸν κόσμον
εἰ μὴ ὁ πιστεύων ὅτι Ἰησοῦς
ἐστιν ὁ υἱὸς τοῦ Θεοῦ;

1 J. v, 5.



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To my Mother,
AND TO THE ILLUMINATED TEACHER
AND GODLY MAN,
The Rev. Wm. D. Du Bose, S. T. D.,
THIS COMPILATION IS
INSCRIBED,
WITH LOVE AND GRATITUDE

FOREWORD

NO one who conceives all poetry as an effort to give utterance to worship—an artistic ritual of adoration, will fail to ask himself, why there has been no poem on the Christ. Milton ventured to deal with the temptation in poetico-theologic manner; Klopstock in an evil hour strove to adorn the gospel story with “beautiful inventions;” Edwin Arnold, who made the “Light of Asia” shine wherever English is spoken, lost heart and cunning when he attempted to show forth the “Light of the World.” The greatest theme ought to be also the easiest theme; for the worship being absolute the words ought assuredly to be most inspired! Was it from a lack of real honest worship for the heroic, the beautiful, the divine? Or was it because the poet deemed the Gospel story sufficient, and dared not attempt to better the best?

Much as we prize the Gospels, however, it is clear that from them, as they stand, we can not easily obtain a portrait of the Master. They are chronicles; not his-

FOREWORD

tories, much less epics. Actuated by this reflection, I ventured to ponder a poem, which should freely use the Bible materials, and offer a portrait of the Christ.

But the Christ is He we see—not He alone whom the Gospels give. We have for centuries labored to emphasize, this and that in the story. We have enriched the New Testament with whatever we most loved in the Old. Our Jesus is as much from the Psalter, from Isaiah, from Genesis and Kings, as from the Gospels. The Apocalypse, and the kindred parts of Ezekiel and Daniel; Proverbs, the Wisdom of Solomon, and the Book of Job—all have helped to paint for us the portrait of the Son of man. It is not a question of Messianic intent in the Old Testament. It is merely a matter of Christian appropriation. The New Testament has set out to conquer and annex the Old. Let the higher critics prove, if they can, that such conquests are illegitimate and violent—the Christian consciousness smiles lovingly and amused at these learned protesters, and goes on conquering and to conquer in spite of caveats, and sorrowful appeals to the historic sense. And the Christian consciousness is right. The figure of the Christ is but indicated in the gospels. As centuries go on, He becomes more distinct. The farther the nearer, thanks to the improved perspective. Demands make us suspect supply; more than that, make

FOREWORD

us sure of its existence in Him. If the Old Testament here or there suggests that the like demand was made before our era, then may we not use those expressions—irrespective of context—to express what we know was in and of the Christ?

So it seemed to me quite clear that I must order my material as the Christian consciousness had already ordered it, proportion it accordingly, and utilize whatever would assist in filling out actual silences, or serve to knit closely parts left in the Gospels disconnected. The Christian year thus became my guide:—

Advent: The Coming.

Epiphany: The Showing.

Lent: The Testing.

Holy Thursday

Good Friday

Easter

The Ascension

Whitsunday

} : The Tragedy.

} : The Glorification.

only with this innovation, that the Feast of the Transfiguration was felt to be the needed beginning of the Tragedy, and the "Second Coming" required to complete the whole. The "Messianic" material of the Old Testament could be utilized to prepare for the Story of the Birth; and to fill in the forty days in the Wilderness. The temptations turned on "if thou be the Son

FOREWORD

of God;" then clearly the period was filled with thoughts of what such divine sonship meant; and the thoughts of Jesus must have included all the great things in the Old Testament which would help to set forth that meaning; else would the Temptations be formally resisted with Scripture quotations?

So the scheme was clearly developed:

I. The Incarnation.

II. The Temptation.

III. The Transfiguration.

IV. The Messianic Entrance.

V. The Passover.

VI. The Passion.

VII. The Risen Christ.

VIII. A Vision of Last Things.

When, after great labor, the materials were gathered and ordered—a sort of "Harmony" produced; the selection of the best with reference to simplicity was made by elimination of what could best be spared, (only one preaching, only one healing, and so forth.—) lest there be repetitions, and a disturbance of that feeling that it was He we were concerned with, rather than his words or deeds. When this difficult and often apparently quite arbitrary process reached its natural end—nothing remained to do but write the Poem. Ah, that "nothing" proved to be everything. I was unable

FOREWORD

to do it. Who could improve in the main on the language of the *Authorized Version*? Obscure places could be helped by use of the "Revised"—or by insertions from some other Biblical passage of the appropriate phrase—but, on the whole—improve on the language? May be a Shakespeare and Milton in one might—but even then only for such as had not heard from childhood the rhythm and diction of the "Great Bible" and the "Authorized"!

So, not being wholly deprived of reason by zeal, I gave up the enterprise. Yet not wholly to lose my arduous labors, not altogether to fail in presenting "the Christ of the Ages" I resigned myself to the humble task of making a mere mosaic of Scripture. Only two or three phrases in it are not actually Biblical, and they are from the *Book of Enoch*—or are quite unnoticeably used as connectives.

The result, however, was troublesome. The pieces of the Mosaic stood apart from one another too sharply. A cement must be found to fill the crevices. This demanded some measure of rearrangement of words, structural inversions, syntactical changes; and these in turn needed to be "licensed"—wherefore verse seemed absolutely necessary. But what verse? Into the English so called "iambic pentameter" or "regular" blank verse it was quite impossible to cast the Bible language

FOREWORD

which is so largely anapaestic in movement. Hence the free "loose" blank verse, as used by the later Jacobean dramatists was resorted to—which ranges from "prose" cut in lines of five rhythmic beats, to eloquent sequences of the characteristic alternate stress.*

Thus did the "Christ of the Ages in Words of Holy Writ" come to be compiled. The History of the Compilation is its apology, if such be needed. But if a further apology for publication should seem necessary—then let this be set down:—an attempt that should be judged a failure will serve as a prophecy of the desired success. Some one will condemn this attempt, and do better! If so, then the publication will have served to supplant itself, which is the highest aim of every honest piece of work however ambitious—to breed its better, and pass out hailing a fairer advent! Meanwhile, there may be some who will find this Compilation, such as it is, not unuseful. If so, may they use it! With which Godspeed—let the Foreword end and the Compilation begin.

W. N. GUTHRIE.

* See Beaumont and Fletcher's or Massinger's Plays.

CONTENTS



I. THE INCARNATION

II. THE TEMPTATION

III. THE TRANSFIGURATION

IV. THE MESSIANIC ENTRANCE

V. THE PASSOVER

VI. THE PASSION

VII. THE RISEN CHRIST

VIII. A VISION OF THE LAST THINGS



TRANSCRIPT I

The Incarnation

*The soul's
need of a
divine rev-
elation de-
clared, and
the time
thereof
called into
question*

- 1 Canst thou, O Soul, by searching find out God,
thy heart's desire, life of thy secret life,
in splendor man may not approach unto
dwelling, immortal; whom no eye hath seen,
5 or can see ever, wrapped in the thick dark
of utter human blindness? Yet the strong,
the true, the wise have striven to hear, see, hold,
sound of the voice, shine of the countenance,
hem of the garment, yea, the very Self—
10 unspeakable beauty, bodiless glory occult,
music' creative, thrilling the vast hush
of formless void. From man whom thou hast made
expressly Thee in life, in death to seek,
why hidest thou thyself, O God? How long
15 ere, harkening, Thou wilt answer to his call?
Not till, he stand thy fellow at length, and shout
ecstatical for joy of his own life
omnipotent, divine?

*In answer
to prayer,
an appari-
tion of
the ancient
seers of
God*

- Silence, my soul,
thy prayer is surely heard. For who be they
20 rising serene—visions not of the night,
dazzling the day? The spirits of just men
made perfect, saints that saw and lived, that see
forever undying, the Invisible God?

THE CHRIST OF THE AGES

Lo ! th' pure in heart of old, the blessèd dead—
25 an holy multitude innumerable
thronging the heaven, and some methinks appear
familiar :—

*Adam's
desire to
be as God
and his
fear*

Adam first, the son of God,
the father of all living, he who chose
rather than idle bliss in Eden, death,
30 that he might know, eyes open, good from ill
and be as God. Who, seeing then himself
dust of the ground and naked, (ignorant
that in his nostrils was the breath of life,
yea, and His after whose likeness man was formed),
35 hid for shame his face when, through the trees
in the cool of day, God passed.

*Enoch's
vision of
the Son of
Man*

Behold, again :
Enoch the fearless seer that walked with God
in humble intimacy ; and, lifted up,
saw the elect, the preexistent Son
40 of man,—of woman,—worshipped ; kings and lords
earth's potentates, their faces to the dust
doing Him reverence, who is judge of all,
wielding dominion in the heavens,—his seat
the supreme throne of glory ;—and having seen,
45 by faith translated, Enoch saw not death,—
he was not, for God took him.

*Noah and
his pledge
of God's
goodwill*

Lo ! the man
who did according unto all the Lord
commanded him, and in the cloud beheld

THE INCARNATION

his bow of promise spanning the green earth :
50 token of an eternal covenant
unto all flesh.

*Job's re-
pentance
that he
judged
of God by
holy
hearsay*

Lo ! he, once sorely tried,
who though God slew him yet would trust in God,
who, when, out of a whirlwind from the North
lurid and wonderful, his God at last
55 spake, and declared the foundations of the earth,
the springs of the sea, the door of the shadow of death,
the excellency and beauty of the Lord,
the glory and terror of his holy arm,
abhorred himself, crying: "I heard of thee
60 by the hearing of the ear. But now, mine eye
seeth Thee."

*Abraham
the friend
of God*

Lo, the patriarch, friend of God
which called him out of Uz (Himself his shield
and his exceeding great reward) and brought
the old man childless forth alone at night
65 bidding him look toward heaven and tell the stars
if he could number them, swearing his seed
as they should be,—and Abraham doubted not.
Yea, at an altar when the sun went down,
and horror of great darkness fell on him,
70 a smoking furnace and a burning lamp,
the Lord, to promise him the land, appeared,
and often met him afterward, and spake
face to face with him.

THE CHRIST OF THE AGES

*Jacob,
renamed
Israel*

Lo! one following close,
Jacob, supplanter, which in dream beheld
75 the stair of heaven, whereon the angels passed
ascending and descending; and, one night,
years after, wrestled in an agony,
but when the day brake, weary, yet prevailed
and won a blessing, though the holy name
80 of Him, he strove with, remained secret still.

*Moses and
his prayer
for knowl-
edge of
God*

And lo! the meek man, awful lawgiver,
king in Jeshurun, not content with seeing,
(he, and his nobles chosen from Israël,)
the feet of God rest on a pavement clear
85 as the sapphire body of heaven; prayed to be shown
himself the perfect glory. Wherefore, hid
in a cleft rock, the goodness of the Lord
passed by before him, and the name divine
"I will be that I am" in thunder pealed.

*David, and
the Lord
of hosts*

90 Behold the youth which slew in the Lord's might
the Philistine reviler;—outlaw, king,
warrior and sweet psalm-singer,—saw he not
his God in Zion, horrible, prepared
for battle with the foes of righteousness,
95 shaking the earth, the sea, the firmament?—
Yet, crowned forever above storm?

*Elijah,
who heard
God, and
was
translated*

Behold
fearing not kings nor tumults, fugitive
from woman's wrath, Elijah, he that knew
God was not in the great strong wind which rent

THE INCARNATION

100 the mountains, nor in earthquake, nor in fire
roaring, but in the still small Voice ; wherefore
the chariot of fire, the steeds of fire
appeared, and by a whirlwind went he up
to heaven.

*Isaiah's
vision of
glory
in the
temple*

Lo, a gentler prophet, he that saw
105 in th' temple the Lord sitting on a throne,
whose train did fill the courts, while seraphim
stood by the throne and one to the other cried
"Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of Hosts!"
At sound whereof the great door-pillars shook,
110 the temple gloomed with smoke, and the seer wailed :
"Woe 's me, for now mine eyes have seen the King!"

*Ezekiel's
vision of
the throne*

Lo, Ezeekiël, the priest, by Chebar's stream
watching a cloud,—a brightness—from whose midst
the amber storm-light shone ; and cherubim
115 six-winged, of fire ; and beryl wheels in wheels
that came and went as lightning at the will
of their One Spirit ; and over these stretched forth
of terrible crystal a firmament, whereon beamed
the sapphire throne, and He which sat therein
120 a living flame, around whom spread the bow
an emerald sheen of hope.

*Daniel and
John be-
hold the
Son of God*

Then Daniël
by the river Hiddekel, pleasing to God,
and John, on Patmos Isle, clearer than he,
were vouchsafed the same vision glorious :

THE CHRIST OF THE AGES

- 125 Ancient of days, his hair as new-fallen snow
on Hermon Hill; the sun in noon-day fierce,
his face; the eyes like the white flame; seven stars
in his right hand, out of his mouth a sword
two edgèd, keen, smiting the hypocrite;
130 his feet as molten brass from th' furnace poured;
his voice pronouncing doom, like shout of host,
or sound of many waters—yea, of seas
roaring to the abyss!

*Prayer
for a
revelation
to the
humble*

O God, O God,
they that have seen thee live, and in their face
135 shineth a bliss perpetual, heroes, priests,
kings, prophets,—pure in heart—thy servants strong.
But, Lord, wilt thou not show thyself to us
ev'n unto *us* also feeble though we be?

*The well
by the
gate of
Bethlehem*

King David, sore bestead, cried: "O that One
140 would give me drink of the water of the well
by the gate of Bethlehem!" and through the host
of Philistines three mighty captains brake,
brought in their helmets water from that well
for the king's thirst: he, nevertheless, the brave,
145 drank not thereof, (too precious for his lips
the blood of men that jeopardd their life
with joy) but shed it forthwith on the ground,
an off'ring unto the Lord, acceptable.
But now, all men who thirst may freely drink
150 of that sweet Well.

THE INCARNATION

*The
prophecies
fulfilled
in the
fulness of
time*

Behold, it hath come to pass,
(as by the prophet aforetime spake the Lord)
that he out of little Bethlehem went forth
who should be ruler, the Lion of the tribe
of Judah, in the strength of the Lord to stand
155 and feed, in the majesty of the holy Name
unto the earth's end conqueror and king.
For unto us, seekers after God, who pray
as Moses in the Mount "although we die
show us thy glory," yet are, as Adam afraid
160 to see,—a child is born, a child of Man,
yea, unto us the poor in spirit and meek—
a Son is given, the Son of the Most High,
upon his shoulder the government, his name
Wonderful, Counsellor, the Mighty God,
165 the Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace
seated forever on King David's throne,
his girdle righteousness, wisdom his crown,
his scepter love. And thus it came to pass:—

*The
annuncia-
tion*

At Nazareth, a city of Galilee
170 in days of Herod the Judæan king,
a maiden dwelt betrothèd to a man
of David's house, and Joseph was his name,
the maiden's Mary. Now to her alone,
an angel came, from God sent, Gabriël,
175 who, coming in said unto her; "Mary, hail
thou that are highly favored; for the Lord
is with thee." At heart sore-troubled, wondering
what manner of salutation this might be,
the angel spake again to her: "Fear not,

THE CHRIST OF THE AGES

180 for thou with God hast favor found. Behold,
thou shalt in thy womb conceive, and bear a son,
and call his name Jesus, God Saviour.
Great shall he be, the son of the Most High.
The throne of his father David, the Lord God
185 shall give him, over Israel to reign
and of his kingdom shall there be no end!"

*The
answer of
Mary and
Gabriel's
further
speech*

Unto the angel then spake Mary: "Lord,
how shall this be?" And Gabriel answered her:
"The Holy Ghost shall come on thee, the power,
190 of the Most High shall overshadow thee,
and therefore that which must of thee be born
is holy—Son of God! Lo, Elizabeth,
she that was barren called, thy kinswoman,
hath also now conceived in her old age
195 a son!"

*Mary goes
to visit
Elizabeth*

And Mary spake again: "Behold
the handmaid of the Lord. Be it unto me
according to thy word." And she arose
and went into the hill-country with haste
to a city of Judah, entering the house
200 of Zacharias, the righteous priest, who walked
blameless in all the ordinances divine.

*Elizabeth
greeteth
Mary*

Now when Elizabeth, his wife devout,
the greeting of her visitor had heard,
in a loud cry she lifted up her voice
205 filled with the Holy Ghost, and said to her:
"Blessèd among women thou, and whence this grace

THE INCARNATION

that the mother of my Lord should come to me?
for, lo, as soon as thy salutation reached
mine ears, the babe leaped in my womb for joy.

210 And blessèd thou, who believest there shall be
performance of all things which from the Lord
were told thee!" And answering Mary said:

*The
Virgin
giveth
thanks to
God*

215 "My soul
doth magnify the Lord. In God my Saviour
my spirit hath rejoiced, for the low estate
he hath regarded of his handmaiden.
Behold all generations from henceforth
shall call me blessèd; for He that mighty is
hath magnified me, and holy is his Name;
whose mercy is on them that fear Him, yea
220 from generation to generation. Strength
He hath with his arm show'd forth, scattering the proud
in the vain imagination of their hearts.
He hath put down the mighty from their seat,
the humble and meek exalting. He hath filled
225 the hungry with good things, sending away
empty the rich. He hath holpen Israël
his servant; in remembrance (as he spake
to our forefathers) of his mercy sworn
Abraham, and his seed forevermore."

*Mary is
told of
Zacharias'
vision*

230 Then tarried she in Zacharias' house,
and from Elizabeth her kinswoman
the wondrous story learned: how ministering
in the priest's office according to his lot
her kinsman in the temple before God

THE CHRIST OF THE AGES

- 235 burned incense, when he saw on the right side
of the altar standing, the angel of the Lord,
and terror fell on him. But the angel said
"Fear not, thy prayer is heard. Elizabeth
thy wife, shall bear a son, whom thou shalt call
240 John, The Lord's gracious gift. For, at his birth
joy shalt thou have and gladness. In the sight
of God great even from his mother's womb,
filled with the Holy Ghost, in the spirit and power
of Elijah shall he go before His face,
245 turning the heart of the fathers to the children,
and the children to the wisdom of the just
from disobedience; making against He come
a people ready for the Lord."

Zacharias'
doubt,
and the 250
sign

- Then asked
Zacharias (for an old man he, his wife
well stricken in years): "What token showest thou
whereby I shall know—this thing shall come to pass?"
The angel answered: "I am Gabriël
which in the presence stand of God, his face
always beholding, sent these tidings glad
255 to shew thee. Therefore, because thou hast not believed
my words which in their time must be fulfilled,
thou shalt be silent, neither able to speak
until the day that all have come to pass."
The multitude of the people praying without
260 at length perceived that in the sanctuary
he had seen a vision; for, he could not speak,
when forth he came, but beckoned to them, dumb.

THE INCARNATION

*The angel
appeareth
unto
Joseph
in a dream*

Now from Judæa returned, at Nazareth
Mary was found with child; and Joseph thought
265 (a just man merciful) what he should do,
when the angel of the Lord appeared in dream
saying: "Fear not. Take unto thee Mary, thy wife
for, of the Holy Ghost hath she conceived.
A son shall she bring forth, and thou shalt call
270 his name Jesus, God Saviour, for 't is He
shall from their sins deliver his people. And now
all this was done—that it might be fulfilled
which by the prophet was spoken of the Lord:
"With child, the virgin shall a son bring forth,
275 and they shall call his name Emmanuël,
God with us." Joseph, raised from sleep, no more
minded to put her privily away,
forthwith brought Mary his espoused wife
to his own home.

*The birth
of Jesus in
Bethlehem
and the
angelic
apparitions
unto the
shepherds*

In those days a decree
280 went out from Augustus Caesar, that all the world
be taxed. So Joseph, of the lineäge
and house of David, took Mary his wife
though great with child, and went from Galilee up
to Bethlehem of Judah. So it fell
285 (because in the Inn there was for them no room)
that in a stable Mary her first-born son
brought forth, and laid him wrapped in swaddling
clothes
in the manger. But, meanwhile, shepherds by night
abided to keep watch over their flock

THE CHRIST OF THE AGES

290 among the fields. Lo, the angel of the Lord
stood by them, and the glory of the Lord
shone round about, and they were sore afraid.
“Fear ye not” spake the angel “for behold
I bring to you glad tidings of great joy
295 which shall be to all people. In Bethlehem
the city of David, unto you this day
is born a Saviour which is Christ the Lord,
and this the sign: that ye shall find the Babe
lying in a manger wrapped in swaddling clothes.”

*The adoration of
Jesus
by the
shepherds* 300 Then was there with the angel suddenly
a multitude of the heavenly Host which cried:
“Glory to God in the Highest; on earth peace,
good will toward men.” When the angels into heaven
away were gone from them, the shepherds said
305 one to another, “Even to Bethlehem
now let us go and see this thing the Lord
hath made us know.” And coming with great haste
they found Mary and Joseph, and in the manger laid
the Babe; whom having seen they noised abroad
310 the saying which was told them of this Child.
And they that heard wondered. But Mary kept
all these things in her heart, and pondered them.
So glorifying and praising God returned
the shepherds to their flocks.

*The cir-
cumcision
of Jesus
and*

On the eighth day
at the circumcising of the child, his name
was called Jesus; and after, when the time
of their purification was fulfilled

THE INCARNATION

*Simeon's
hymn of
thanks-
giving*

- according to the law, they brought the Child
unto Jerusalem to offer up
320 the appointed sacrifice of the first-born
that openeth the womb (two turtle doves)—
and to present him holy to the Lord.
And lo, in Jerusalem a man devout
and just, to whom it was of the Holy Ghost
325 revealed that he should surely not see death
before he saw the Lord's Christ—Simeon—
into the temple by the spirit came
when the parents brought the child, and in his arms
took Jesus blessing God and saying: "Lord,
330 now lettest thou thy servant in peace depart
according to thy word. For lo, mine eyes
have seen the salvation which thou hast prepared
before the face of all. A light to lighten
the Nations, and the glory of Israël
335 thy people."

*Simeon
fore-
warneth
Mary.*

- And Simeon blessed them saying
to Mary his mother: "Behold this child is set
for the fall and rising up in Israël
of many, and for a sign, spoken against
that the thought of every heart may be revealed—
340 yea, and a sword through thine own soul shall pierce!"

*A
prophetess
rejoiceth
in the
Child*

- But Anna the daughter of Phanuël, of the tribe
of Aser, which—worshipping day and night—
a widow of great age, from the temple of God
departed not, a prophetess of the Lord,—
345 at that same instant entered and gave thanks

THE CHRIST OF THE AGES

likewise with joy, and spake of Him to all
that in Jerusalem for redemption looked.
And the child grew, and waxed in spirit strong,
with wisdom filled, and with the grace of God.

Hymn of gratulation that Israel hath in the Child her promised redeemer 350 Awake! Awake! hearken O Israë!,
though darkness gross cover the earth, the Lord
hath risen upon thee. Therefore thou arise!
Shine, for thy Light is come, and round about
the nations gather themselves, and mighty kings
to the brightness of his dawn. Behold, the Lord
createth thee new heavens and a new earth;
the sun, which goeth at even down, no more
shall rule thy day, neither by night the moon,
which waneth, but the Lord himself, the Lord
360 shall be thine everlasting Light,—thy God
thy Glory. Henceforth none shall labor in vain,
with sorrow unto sorrow none bring forth,
none hurt, and none destroy. But wolf with lamb
dwell freely, yea leopard with kid lie down,
365 lion and ox together feed, and men
be righteous all, for, lo! a little Child
shall lead them, him the Lord of old hath called:
The Prince of Peace, Wonderful, Counsellor
the Everlasting Son, the Mighty God!

TRANSCRIPT II

The Temptation

- 1 The Beginning of the Gospel of Jesus Christ,
the Son of God.

*The
preaching
of the
son of
Zacharias
by Jordan*

- Behold I send before me
my messenger. In the wilderness a voice
crying: "all flesh is grass, and, as the flower
5 of the field, the goodliness thereof; the grass
withereth, the flower fadeth, but the word
of God shall stand forever. Level ye then
His highway; every valley shall be filled,
and every mountaintop brought low; make straight
10 the crooked, the rough places plain, for He,
whom ye delight in, cometh suddenly
unto his temple. Lift ye up your head
ye gates, ye everlasting doors lift up,
for the King of glory entereth. But who
15 may abide that day, and when He appeareth, stand?
for He, the Lord of hosts, mighty in war,
searcher of hearts, is judge. Return therefore
unto his ordinances. Repent! For nigh
is He that cometh. Wash you, make you clean!"

*John
resenteth
the*

- 20 So John, the son of Zacharias, clothed
with raiment of camel's hair, about his loins
the leathern girdle, (locusts, and from the rock

THE CHRIST OF THE AGES

*approach
of
Pharisees
and
Sadducees*

- 25 wild honey, his meat) filled with the Holy Ghost,
the baptism of repentance preached; and vast
multitudes from Jerusalem went out,
yea, and from all Judæa, and were baptized
in Jordan for remission of sins. But John,
when many Pharisees and Sadducees
thronged also about him, cried: "Who warneth you
30 O generation of vipers, that you flee
from wrath to come? Behold, unto the root
is laid the axe already, and every tree
that bringeth not forth good fruit shall be hewn down
and cast into the fire. Wherefore, bear fruits
35 worthy of repentance; nor, say ye in your heart
'We have Abraham to our father!' Is not God
presently able of these desert stones
to raise up children unto Abraham?"

*John
predicteth
that the
Christ
will
shortly
come*

- 40 But as the people in expectation mused
of John, whether or no he were the Christ,
he answered: "Nay, but mightier far than I
there cometh One, the latchet of whose shoe
not worthy am I to stoop down and unloose.
I indeed unto repentance have baptized
45 with water; He with wind of God and fire
baptizeth you. Whose fan is in his hand
and thoroughly will he purge his floor; and, the wheat
into his garner gathering, burn the chaff
with fire unquenchable."

*Jesus
cometh*

- 50 Now in those days,
when all the people went out for to see—

THE TEMPTATION

*to be bap-
tized of
John
in Jordan*

- no reed in the wilderness shaken in the wind,
nor such as live in king's courts delicately
apparelled in soft raiment gorgëous,
but verily a great prophet, (—yea, and more—
55 for he bare witness of the Light)—there came
from Galilee Jesus also. And John forbade
saying: "I have need to be baptized of Thee,
and comest Thou to me?" But Jesus said:
"Suffer it now, for it becometh us
60 so to fulfill all righteousness."

*The Voice
from
heaven
acknowl-
edgeth
Jesus*

- And lo,
when Jesus, being baptized in Jordan, prayed,
the heaven was opened, and the spirit of God
descended, lighting as a dove on Him;
and out of heaven a Voice which said: "Thou art
65 my belovëd Son; in Thee am I well pleased."
Then Jesus went from the water straightway up,
and the spirit drave him into the wilderness,
where forty days he fasted, and forty nights
dwelt with the wild beasts, Satan tempting Him.

*The medi-
tation of
Jesus*

- 70 So, full of the Holy Ghost with his own soul
He communed long.

*Israel and
Judah
heirs of the
promise*

- Did not the Lord declare:
"Israel is my Son, yea, my firstborn?"
that out of Judah, whom his father blessed,
as a great lion, (gone up from the prey),
75 couching, a scepter should arise,—a star?
Now shall his gathering of the people be,

THE CHRIST OF THE AGES

and nigh is thy salvation? The barren place
like Eden shall with a voice of melody
be glad, and blossom as the rose?

*That prophet
like unto
Moses,
and the
law in
men's
hearts*

80 Spake not from heaven the Lord: "Thou art my Son?" O God,
hast thou from among my brethren raised up Me—
that prophet—like unto thy Chosen of old
whom out of the midst of the bush, which unconsumed
at foot of Horeb burned with flame of fire,
85 thou calledst forth from shepherding the flock
of Jethro, through the wilderness to lead
thy sheep? This day wilt thou establish new
thy covenant—to pour out on all flesh
thy spirit, and in their hearts to write thy law?

*The glory
of that
prophet,
and the
gladness of
his coming*

90 Beautiful on the mountains are the feet
of Him that bringeth Zion good tidings. Shout
for joy together, ye watchmen, shout and sing:
"Lo, thy Redeemer cometh unto thee!
Bless'd who eye to eye beholdeth Him!"

*Jesus
pondereth
the fulfil-
ment of
these
promises
in
Himself*

95 Hath the spirit of God anointed Me to preach
unto the meek his gospel; and, them that mourn
comforting, to proclaim the acceptable year?
From me, Lord, wilt thou have thy law proceed
which biddeth go free the prisoner in bonds,
100 strengtheneth the weak hands, and the feeble knees
confirmeth; yea, which openeth all blind eyes,
deaf ears unstoppeth, and maketh as an hart
the lame to leap, that the tongue of the dumb sing:—

THE TEMPTATION

“Be strong, fear not. Behold your God shall save.
105 Like smoke heaven vanisheth, earth waxeth old
as a worn garment, but his word endureth?”

*and
Trium-
phantly in-
quireth
whether He
be not that
prophet*

Truth
and mercy at last are met together? Peace
and righteousness have one another kissed?
And shall this day thy mountain be, O Lord
above the hills exalted, that thy sons
and daughters thither from afar may throng?
And wilt thou cry through Me: “Ho every one
that hungereth, and thirsteth (where none is,
seeking for water) come, without money buy
115 drink wine and milk?” Wilt thou command through
Me

“Cast ye up, cast ye up, prepare the road,
remove the stumbling block, over the hills
make straight and large the highway of holiness
wherein, though fools, men faring shall not err?”
120 The house of the glory of the Lord wilt thou
build, laying in Sion a tried and precious stone,
a deep and sure foundation at the head
of the corner, judgment meted to the line,
and righteousness to the plummet—even a stone
125 rejected of the builders?

*His spirit
rejoiceth
in this
heavenly
call*

Sing, O sing
ye heavens! Be joyful, earth! Mountains and hills
shout! And ye trees of the field clap, clap your hands!
for in the temple, the High and Holy One,
inhabiting eternity, shall dwell

THE CHRIST OF THE AGES

130 with contrite and with humble men of heart,
to revive their spirit and to be their God!

*Jesus
further
pondereth
the prom-
ise of a
perfect
priest*

No peace to the wicked? Yet the covenant
of peace thou gavest unto Phinehas,
an everlasting priesthood to the Lord,
135 because, zealous for Thee and Israël,
he made atonement. Me, O God, thy zeal
consumeth.

*The need
for such a
priest to
make
atonement*

As a troubled sea, whose waves
cast mire, the wicked rage; but thou hast set,
mightier than they, Righteousness in their midst—
140 our Rock. They gather together, and counsel take
in vain against us, all the kings of earth,
for surely one shall say: "In Thee is strength
O Lord sufficient for us!" Israël,
fallen by his iniquity, hath destroyed
145 Himself. But waiting patiently, I looked
and saw no intercessor:—righteousness
his breastplate, thy salvation on his head
for helmet, zeal his garment. Yet, O Lord
after the order of Melchizedek

150 who brought forth (King of Salem) bread and wine
to bless our father Abraham, thou hast sworn
to make a priest forever? And from heaven
thy voice even now declared: "Thou art my son?"

*Where-
with shall
atonement
be made?*

Then wherewith shall I come before Thee, Lord?
155 The cattle on a thousand hills, the fowls
of the mountains, and the wild beasts of the field

THE TEMPTATION

are thine. Wilt thou with thousands of rivers of oil
be pleased, or clouds of costly incense sweet?
Thine the whole world, and the fulness thereof thine.
160 Burnt offering, sacrifice, sabbath, new moon,
appointed feast, solemn assembly—these
Thou wouldst not; yet hast made thy people priests
showing them what is good, commanding them
in the beauty of holiness to worship Thee,
165 offer thanksgiving, and the sacrifice
of a broken spirit and a contrite heart.
Lo I come, God—Father—to do thy will!

*Jesus
seeth in
vision the
patriarch
Job*

Now Jesus, musing so in the wilderness
beheld a vision :—Satan answering
170 the Lord of heaven “Doth Job fear God for naught?
Yea, all that a man hath for his own life
he giveth.” But, smitten then in bone and flesh,
Job held fast his integrity, and prayed
for them—his friends—who, justifying God,
175 imputed sin unto the Suffërer.

*The fiery
serpents in
the wilder-
ness*

The vision changed. Behold a multitude
writhing with pain abominable and grief,—
serpents of fire from the Lord sent—and they
alone did live which looked on One of brass,
180 by Moses lifted up.

*The
Passover
night*

Behold again :
the Lord’s destroyer smote, through all the land
of Egypt, the first-born in every house
the lintel and two side-posts of whose door

THE CHRIST OF THE AGES

smoked not that night with blood of the lamb, slain—
185 the Lamb without a blemish.

*Abraham's
sacrifice
of his
son and
the Lord's
promise*

Abraham—
(the vision changing)—climbed the mountain side
with Isaac, the only son of his old age.
And Isaac spake: "My Father." "Here am I
my Son" said Abraham. Then answered him
190 Isaac: "Behold, my Father, in my hand
the fire, and the wood I bear. Where is the lamb
for a burnt offering?" And Abraham spake:
"My Son, God will provide himself a lamb."
Then coming to the place God told him, there—
195 Abraham built an altar and laid thereon
the wood in order, and bound his only son
Isaac, and would have slain the son he loved.
But lo, an angel cried: "Lay not thine hand,
Abraham, on the lad; for now I know
200 thou fearest God, nor hast withheld from me
thine only son. Because, obeying my voice
thou hast this done, all nations of the earth
shall in thy Seed be blessed."

*The
righteous
man, son
of God,
persecuted
of the
wicked*

The vision changed.
Behold, the ungodly made a covenant
205 with death;—"Let us oppress the righteous man
whose life is unlike ours. For a reproof
unto our thoughts, contrary to our works,
a knowledge of the Lord doth he profess
whose servants happy in their latter end
210 esteeming, he vaunteth that *his* father is God.

THE TEMPTATION

- Come let us see if true his words, and prove
with outrage and with torture his gentleness.
That we may learn his patience under wrong,
let us condemn him to a death of shame,
215 for surely God will save his Son alive.”
Blinded with wickedness so reasoned they,
ignorant of the mysteries of God,
how that the soul of the Righteous, (in His hand
forever,) torment toucheth not nor grief.
220 For though in the sight of men he seem to die,
and his departure be accounted hurt
and punishment to him, yet having borne
chastening a season, of immortality
his hope is full. God making trial of him
225 findeth him worthy to abide in love.

*The mean-
ing of
these
visions
set forth*

- But Jesus many days in the wilderness
pondered these visions. How it needs must be,
(though in the way of righteousness is life,)
the Christ should suffer sorer things than Job;
230 be lifted up, for sight of sinful men
in guise of sin, to heal them; be the Lamb
slain, without spot or blemish, in their stead,
whom the Father of the righteous will provide.

*Jesus
pondereth
anew the
divine
word of
assurance,*

- Spake not from heaven the Voice: Thou art my Son?
235 this day have I begotten thee, though of old
I loved thee with an everlasting love.
Ask of me, and I, for thine inheritance,
the uttermost parts will give thee of the earth;
from sea to sea shall thy dominion stretch,

THE CHRIST OF THE AGES

and the 240 to help the poor and needy, to redeem
Voice from violence their soul, to break the power
addresseth of their oppressor. As rain shalt Thou come down
Him in on the mown grass, that the righteous may spring up
vision and flourish. For to judge the earth, O Lord,

245 Thou comest, and strong nations afar off
 wilt Thou rebuke; that they shall beat their swords
 to ploughshares, and to pruning-hooks their spears;
 that every man under his vine may sit,
 under his fig tree, unafraid. For, peace,
 250 so long as the moon endureth and the sun,
 shalt Thou establish, O my Prince of Peace!

The Voice Thy throne forever and ever is, O God
admitteth before the depth brought forth, before the hills,
his origi- when I the heaven prepared, fashioned the clouds,
nal glory 255 strengthened the fountains of the deep, set fast
 the foundations of the earth, wast Thou with Me,
 which art from everlasting, my delight.
 Life hath, whoso hath Thee!

The Voice Behold the day
asserteth wherein of David's stock, of Jesse's root
his King- 260 I swear unto my people to raise me up
ship, as a Branch, his name: the Lord, their Righteousness;
well as his that they to whom early and late in vain
prophetic I sent my prophets forth, may know at last
priestly Me, in the fulness of thy grace and truth."
offices

The 265 Then hearing in his soul the Invisible
answer speak awful words, and marvellous, of love—

THE TEMPTATION

*of Jesus
to the
Voice
heard in
vision* 270 Jesus began to be very sorrowful,
and exceeding heavy even unto death :
“Lo, I come to do thy will. But, glorify
Father, thy Name.”

Thus saith the Lord thy God :—

*The Voice
reneweth
and en-
largeth the
promise* 275 Nevertheless thou art, O Israë!,
My Servant, the Branch of David ; and in Thee
will I be glorified, nor will I give
my glory to another. From the womb
I formed thee, and made mention of thy name
to bring Jacob again to Me. Lo, I will hold
thine hand, and keep thee—clothe thee with a robe
of righteousness, and as a bridegroom deck,
with ornaments of beauty, Thee—my Son !

The Voice 280 Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion, shout !
addresseseth Behold thy King which cometh unto thee
Zion, pres- just, bringing salvation, lowly upon an ass
ent to Jesus riding, upon a colt the foal of an ass.
in vision

*and com-
mendeth* 285 Behold, he shall deal prudently, my Servant,
her King and be exalted very high, and praised.
unto her For He that stretcheth forth above the heaven,
praise that spreadeth abroad the earth, hath glorified
today Himself in Israë!

Behold

*and
speaketh of
his kind-
ness and
mercy* 290 my servant, mine Elect, in whom my soul
delighteth, shall not strive nor cry aloud ;
a bruised reed shall he break not, smoking flax

THE CHRIST OF THE AGES

not quench, nor be discouraged till He set
judgment on earth.

*The Voice
suddenly
announceth
calamity*

295

Awake, awake, O sword
against my Shepherd, yea against the MAN
that is my Fellow. Smite Him, and the sheep
shall scatter, and I upon the little ones
will turn my hand!

*The rejection of the
divinely
sent
prophet
priest
and King*

300

Lo, now He is despised,
rejected of men. A man of sorrows, with grief
acquainted, he hath no form nor comeliness,
no beauty that they should desire in Him.
So marred his visage, more than the sons of men,—
they are astonished. Anointed with the oil
of gladness above his fellows, He is become
a stranger unto his brethren. Mark ye well
if there be any sorrow in the world
305 like unto the sorrow which is done to Him!

*His
affliction
and the
contempt
of his
enemies
foreshown*

310

He was oppressed, afflicted. As a sheep,
before his shearers led, is dumb—his mouth
he opened not. Meekly his back he gave
unto the smiter, nor from spitting and shame
his face hid, though with a rod upon the cheek
they smote the Judge of Israel.

*His suffer-
ings mis-
taken for*

And ye?
Ye esteemed Him stricken, afflicted, smitten of God!
Yet, surely, He hath borne your griefs alone,
your sorrows carried; for your iniquities

THE TEMPTATION

marks of 315 bruised, wounded,—the chastisement of your peace
divine dis- was laid on Him, and ye are with his stripes
pleasure healed.

The Taken from prison and judgment, as a lamb
Messiah's brought to the slaughter,—what are in his hands
passion is these wounds? Even they wherewith in a friend's
recounted house

320 He wounded was? And faithful are the wounds
of friends? For He is cut off out of the land
of the living. Darkness, neither day nor night,
hideth the earth.

his With the violent in his death,
distressful with the wicked he made his grave, because he did
end 325 no violence ever, neither was guile in him,
nor in his mouth deceit. Stricken alone
for the transgression of his people, shame
covered his face, and for my sake on Him
fell the reproaches of all them which dared
330 reproach Me blasphemously, the Lord their God."

Jesus hear- Now Jesus hearing all, in spirit groaned.
ing the "Lo I am come to do thy will," he cried,
Voice doth "Thine and not mine be done, yet God, my God
in vision wherefore hast thou forsaken me? And why
perceive 335 art thou so far from the call of my distress?
and real- Many are they which hate me without cause.
ize the They pierce my hands, my feet. Among themselves
Messiah's they part my garments, and they cast their lots
agony upon my vesture. Staring, and looking on,
340 they stand. I am full of heaviness. Reproach

THE CHRIST OF THE AGES

*and
addresseth
his prayer
unto God*

hath broken my heart. I looked for some at least
to have pity on me, but there was none at all
to comfort me. They gave me in my thirst
vinegar to drink and gall. Be thou, my God
345 not far from me. My heart melteth like wax.
I am poured forth like water. Out of joint
are all my bones, and dried up is my strength.
My tongue cleaveth to my jaws. I am weary, O Lord,
of crying. Mine eyes fail. I am a worm—
350 a reproach of men, an outcast of the people.
All they that see, laugh me to very scorn,
shoot out the lip, and shake the head: "In God
he trusted,—Let then God deliver him,
If He will have him!"

*In vision 355
Jesus
crieth
from
Hades unto
the Lord
for deliv-
erance 360*

"Out of the deep, O Lord
I cry, wherein thou hast cast me. I am gone down
to the bottom of the mountains, in the midst
of the deep seas. Hide not thy face from me
thy servant. In thy loving kindness look,
O God, upon me. All thy billows and waves
passed over me, the floods compass my soul,
I am sinking in the mire of the depth; the weeds
are wrapped about my head; her bars the earth
closeth upon me. In the belly of Hell
three days and nights I cry: 'wilt thou not bring
365 my life up from corruption, O Lord, my God?'"

*The prayer
reacheth
the ear of
the Lord*

The prayer of the humble pierceth through the clouds,
till it come nigh who sitteth in the heaven.
The heart knoweth its own bitterness, nor can
be comforted ere the Most High have spoken.

THE TEMPTATION

In vision the Voice answereth, speaking of the Messiah's resurrection, ascension, and final judgment of mankind 370 "Thy flesh shall rest in hope. I will not leave in hell thy soul, nor suffer mine holy One to see corruption. I will ransom thee from the power of the grave. In victory, I will swallow up death. Nor shall on earth
375 hell royal dominion exercise. To heaven who hath ascended in my holy place to stand? He of clean hands, and of pure heart. Fullness of joy is in my presence, yea, pleasure at my right hand forever more.
380 Sit Thou therefore, exalted, till I make thine enemies thy footstool. Thou shalt see, satisfied, of the travail of thy soul; because thou hast poured out thy life to death, numbered with the transgressors, bearing the sin
385 of many, and madest intercession. Behold thy feet shall stand before Jerusalem upon the Mount of Olives, which shall cleave in the midst to East, to West, to North, to South, and there shall yawn a valley horrible.
390 I will uphold thee, mine Elect, in whom my soul delighteth, that Thou shalt bring forth judgment to all the nations.

The Voice proceedeth to tell of the judgment and 395 Multitudes, in the valley of decision! Multitudes! For lo, the day of the Lord hath come, and ripe the harvest whitens. Put the sickle in, and get you down, for full is the wine press and the vats overflow with iniquity. In the heaven will I show wonders, on the earth

THE CHRIST OF THE AGES

*the final
acceptance 400
of repent-
ant
Israel*

blood, fire, pillars of smoke. The sun is turned
to darkness, and the moon to blood for Thee ;
and, upon David's house will I pour out,
and all inhabitants of Jerusalem,
thy spirit of supplication and of grace,—
when they shall look on Thee whom they have pierced,
405 mourning for Thee in the bitterness of them
who weep their first born son. But I will take
the rebuke away of my people, and will wipe
all tears from off their face. The ploughman shall
the reaper overtake, the treader of grapes
410 the sower, and the mountains drop sweet wine,
the hills melt, flowing with milk and honey, and springs
of water, and rivers in the wilderness.
There will I plant the cedar, the shittah-tree,
the myrtle, the olive, the fir, the pine, the box ;
415 of Carmel and of Sharon shall it take
the excellency, and the glory of Lebanon.
For the knowledge of the Lord shall fill the earth
as the deep water covereth the sea !”

*Jesus ac-
cepteth the 420
full import
of the
vision and
realizeth
his divine
mediator-
ship 425*

Then Jesus rejoiced in spirit : “O Lord, my God
with thy right hand and with thy holy arm
Thou hast gotten thyself the victory, and made known
thy great Salvation. Thou hast called me Son—
thy well-beloved ! Lo, Father, I am come
to do thy will, and go forth to the world
that I may glorify thy Name on earth.”

*Thus were
the forty
days draw-
ing to a
close*

Thus Jesus forty days and forty nights,
as Moses with the Lord, ate not nor drank ;
and,—as Elijah unto the Mount of God,
Horeb,—so in the strength of the spirit he went.

THE TEMPTATION

And Satan 430 When they were ended he hungered afterward.
tempted And Satan came and tempted him: "If Thou
Jesus be verily the Son of God, command
these stones to be made bread." "Then answered He:
435 "It is written thou shalt not live by bread alone,
but by every word of God." And Satan straight
took him unto the holy city, and high
set him upon a temple pinnacle.

Satan "I have called Thee by thy name, and Thou art mine.
whispereth When Thou through the waters passest, I will be
inspired 440 beside thee, lest the floods should overflow.
words And when Thou walkest through the fire, no flame
shall kindle, for I am the Lord, *thy* God."

and So Satan said: "If Thou be verily
tempteth the Son of God, cast thyself down from hence,
Jesus the 445 for it is written "Because thou hast set thy love
second upon me, and hast known my name, I will
time deliver thee. Nay, I will set thee high
and give mine angels charge concerning thee,
to keep thee, and in their hands to bear thee up,
450 lest thou thy foot dash haply against a stone!"
But Jesus said: "Again it is written: Thou shalt
not tempt the Lord thy God."

Satan ad- And Satan then,
dresseth taketh Him unto a mountain exceeding high
himself to and sheweth him the kingdoms of the world,
the third 455 and all their glory in a moment of time.
and last
temptation

THE CHRIST OF THE AGES

*and
whispereth
inspired
words set-
ting forth
a lower
ideal of
the
Messiah
than that
of the
Voice in
his vision*

“With a rod of iron shalt thou break them all,
dash them in pieces like a potter’s sherd.
Be wise therefore ye kings and kiss the Son,
lest he be angry and ye perish all.
460 For, the day of vengeance in my heart, the year
of my redeemed is come. And I that speak
in righteousness, mighty to save, in anger
will trample all the people to the earth.
Drunk, yea, for fury, I will sprinkle and stain
465 my raiment with their blood the while I tread
the wine press of my wrath.”

.

*and
templeth
Jesus in
vain the
third time*

So Satan said:
“Behold, all this power will I give to thee,
and the glory of all kingdoms, for hath it not
been unto me delivered that to whom
470 I will I give it? If thou, therefore, wilt
fall down and worship me, it all is thine.”
But Jesus answered: “Satan, get thee hence,
get thee behind me, for it is written: thou shalt
worship the Lord thy God, and serve but Him
475 alone!”

*The angels
minister
unto the
Son of man*

Then the devil for a season leaveth Him,
having ended the temptation; and, straightway,
the angels came and ministered unto Him.

TRANSCRIPT III

The Transfiguration

*Jesus, after
the tempt-
ation, go-
eth to
Nazareth*

- 1 When it was noised abroad how Herod, (of John
reproved, for that he took Herodiäs
his brother Philip's wife,) added yet this,
above the many evils he had done,
5 that John he cast into prison,—Jesus returned
in the power of the spirit to Galilee, and a fame
went out of him through the whole region round,
glorified everywhere of them he taught.
So unto Nazareth also Jesus came
10 where Mary dwelt, his mother, and himself
had been brought up.

*and read-
eth on the
Sabbath
Day from
the
Prophet
Isaiah*

- Now on the Sabbath day
He stood up for to read in the synagogue
according to his wont; and, in his hands
the minister delivering the book
15 of the prophet Isaiah, Jesus found the place
where it is written: "The Spirit of the Lord God
is come upon me, anointing me to preach
the good news to the poor. He hath sent me forth
to heal the brokenhearted, and to preach
20 deliverance to the captive, to the blind
recovering of sight; at liberty
them that are bruised to set, and to proclaim
the acceptable year of the Lord."

THE CHRIST OF THE AGES

*He
answereth
their
questions
as to his
prophetic
office*

- So having read
- 25 and closed the book and to the minister
given it again, Jesus sat down, and spake,
when the eyes of all were fastened on Him: "This day
hath in your ears this scripture been fulfilled."
And they bare him witness, at the gracious words
wondering which proceeded out of his mouth:
- 30 "Is not this Joseph's son?" But Jesus said:
"Not verily without honor a prophet is
except in' his own country; and of a truth
I tell you when three years the heaven was shut
and famine throughout all the land prevailed,
- 35 many were widows in Israel, yet to none
was the prophet Elijah sent, but unto her
of Sidon; and many also in Israël
were lepers, but none of them Elisha cleansed
saving only Naäman the Syriän."

*Jesus
leaveth
Nazareth
and
dwelleth at
Caper-
naüm*

- 40 Now they which in the synagogue had heard
these sayings, filled with vehement wrath, rose up
and thrust him out; and to the brow of the hill
whereon was built their city led him forth
that they from thence might cast him headlong down.
- 45 But Jesus passing through the midst of them
went on his way, and to a city came
on the sea coast, Capernaum, and there dwelt;
That the word might be fulfilled which the Lord spake
by the prophet: "On the border of Zabulon
50 and Nepthalim, a people, which had long
in darkness sat and in the shadow of death,
saw a great Light."

THE TRANSFIGURATION

*He
preacheth
by the
shore of
the Sea of
Tiberias*

Wherefore it came to pass,
when hard the people pressed him for to hear
the word of God, that by the lake two ships
55 were standing, and the fishermen washed their nets.
So Jesus entered into Simon's ship,
and prayed him that he thrust out from the shore
a little way, and sat him down, and taught
the people: "Full is the time, and nigh at hand
60 the kingdom of heaven. Repent then, and believe!"
and many things besides in parables
He spake out of the ship.

*and calleth
four fish-
ermen to
be his
disciples
and follow
him*

But afterward
as he had finished teaching, Jesus said
to Simon: "Launch out now into the deep
65 and let down for a draught thy nets." So he,
answering saith to Jesus: "All night long
we have toiled and nothing taken, nevertheless
at thy word, Master, will I cast the net."
When Simon, and Andrew his brother, had this done,
70 their net so great a multitude enclosed
of fishes that it brake. And Andrew beckoned
unto their partners in the other ship.
Which straightway came to help them, and behold,
with the draught of fishes, James and John, the sons
75 of Zebedee, and Simon and Andrew filled
both ships, that they began to sink. Then Simon,
astonished fell at Jesus' knees and cried:
"Depart from me, I am a sinful man
O Lord." But answering Jesus saith: "Fear not,
80 Simon, for men, from henceforth, shalt thou catch."

THE CHRIST OF THE AGES

And unto them that were with Simon he saith
likewise: "Come after me, and I will make you
fishers of men." Wherefore, when they had brought
their ships to land, they forsook all straightway
85 and followed him into Capernäum.

*In the
synagogue
Jesus
casteth out
a devil*

Again in the Synagogue on the Sabbath day
all marvelled at his doctrine; for he taught
as one having authority, not as th' scribes.
And in the synagogue, crying, a man arose,
90 which had an unclean spirit: "Let us alone,
Jesus of Nazareth! What have *we* to do
with Thee? To destroy us, art thou come? I know
who *Thou* art—yea, the Holy One of God!"
But Jesus rebuked the devil: "Hold thy peace,
95 and come out of the man!" Then in their midst
the devil threw him, tare him, and with loud voice
crying, came out of him, yet hurt him not.
And greatly were all amazed, among themselves
questioning: "What strange thing is this? What new
100 doctrine? For lo, with power commandeth He
the unclean spirits, and Him they do obey!"

*and
healeth
many sick
of divers
diseases*

Immediately his fame was spread abroad
through all the region about Galilee.
And when the even was come, and the sun set,
105 the city gathered together at the door:
they that had any sick brought them to Him
and Jesus laid his hands on everyone,
making them whole; and cast the spirits out,
which at his word came forth and cried: "Thou art

THE TRANSFIGURATION

- 110 the Christ, the Son of God" whom he rebuked,
charging them straitly not to make Him known.
Then was fulfilled that which the prophet spake :
"Himself took our infirmities, and bare
our sicknesses." Yea, the whole multitude
115 sought for to touch him, and out of Him there went
virtue, healing them all, that with one voice
they glorified God which gave such power to men.

*Jesus
leaveth
Caperna-
um to
preach in
other cities
and his
disciples
follow
him*

- Now Jesus, in the morning a great while
before the day, rose up and went alone
120 to a desert place to pray. Where Simon came,
Andrew and James and John, and finding him
said : "Lord, behold all men seek after thee."
But Jesus saith : "Unto the nighest towns
hence let us go, that there also I may preach."
125 But the people, following, stayed him, and besought
that he should not depart from them. Howbeit
He answered them and said : "Must I not preach
likewise in other cities the kingdom of heaven?
For therefore am I sent." So Jesus preached
130 throughout all Galilee.

*Having
called
Levi, Jesus
forgiveth
sins and
answereth
them which
murmured
thereat*

- After some days
He entered into a ship, crossed over and came
into Capernäum again ; and lo,
the multitude resorted unto him.
And as he passed he saw a publican
135 at the receipt of custom sitting and said :
"Follow thou Me !" And forthwith Levi arose
and after Jesus went. Now Pharisees, scribes,

THE CHRIST OF THE AGES

- and doctors of the law out of every town
in Galilee, yea, out of Jerusalem
- 140 and all Judæa, were come to hear the word
that in the house there was not room for them,
no, nor about the door; and Jesus preached.
But four men sought to bring one in a bed,
sick of the palsy; which for the great press
- 145 unable to come nigh, on th' housetop went.
and, uncovering the roof, into their midst
let down the bed, wherein the sick man lay,
at Jesus' feet; who seeing their faith, said: "Son
be of good cheer. Forgiven thee be thy sins!"
- 150 And the scribes and Pharisees within themselves
reasoned: "Who is this, which speaketh blasphemies?
Who but God only hath power to forgive sins?"
Immediately in his spirit when he perceived
their thought, he said: "Why think ye in your hearts
- 155 evil? For whether is easier of the twain
to say unto the sick of the palsy, "Son,
forgiven thee be thy sins!" or, "Arise and walk!"
But that ye may know verily how on earth
the Son of Man hath power to forgive
- 160 sins"—Jesus unto the sick of the palsy saith:
"I say unto thee arise! Take up thy bed
and go thy way!" And lo, before them all
he stood, and took the bed whereon he lay,
and went forth, praising aloud and blessing God,
- 165 to his own house. Which when the multitude
had seen, they were astonished; and, filled with fear,
gave God the glory.

THE TRANSFIGURATION

*Levi
maketh a
feast and
inviteth
Jesus*

Now Levi made a feast,
and many publicans and sinners came,
and sat them down to meat with Jesus. So,
seeing what there was done, the Pharisees
against the disciples murmured, saying: "Why
with publicans and sinners do ye eat?"
But Jesus answering said: "They that be whole
of the physician verily have no need."
175 Not so the sick. Go ye therefore and learn,
what meaneth the Scripture: 'Mercy will I have,
not sacrifice.' Behold I am come to call
not the righteous, but the sinner to repentance."

*Great
multitudes
come unto
Jesus to be
healed and
he preach-
eth the
Word unto
them*

Thereafter, Jesus into the wilderness
180 withdrew, for He could enter now no more
the city openly. Nevertheless multitudes
together came, that of their infirmities
they might be all made whole; and they followed him
to hear his word. And Jesus, when he saw
195 how that they fainted, and were scattered abroad
as sheep without a shepherd, looked on them
and had compassion, and healed them everyone,
and spake to the people in parables: "What man of you,
having an hundred sheep, if one be gone
190 astray, leaveth not there the ninety and nine,
and after that which he hath lost goeth forth
into the mountains? Yea and verily,
if so be that he find the sheep, with joy
on his shoulder he layeth it, and returneth home,
195 and calleth together his neighbors and his friends

THE CHRIST OF THE AGES

saying: "Come make merry with me, for I have found
my sheep which went astray!" And even so
it is not the will of your Father, that one of these
His little ones should perish. In heaven likewise

200 I say unto you there shall indeed be joy,
in the presence of the holy angels, more
over one sinner, that repenteth him,
than over all the ninety and nine just men
which need not to repent.

*Speaking
of the
sheep and
the good
shepherd
unto
which he
likeneth
them and
himself*

"Behold, the good
205 Shepherd—he giveth for the sheep his life!
but he that is an hireling, and whose own
the sheep are not, he careth not for them,
fleeth if the wolf come, and forsaketh them,
and they are caught and scattered. Little flock
210 fear ye not—I am the *good* shepherd. I feed
in pastures green my sheep, by waters still;
the tired lambs in my bosom with mine arm
I gather and I carry; and gently them,
that are with young, I lead. My sheep I know
215 and they all follow when they hear my voice.
I give them, lest they perish, eternal life;
and no man hath the power out of mine hand
to pluck them. For my Father who gave them me
is mightier than all."

*The
Parable of
the Good
Samaritan
is told*

Again he told
220 the people a parable:
"A man which went
down from Jerusalem to Jericho

THE TRANSFIGURATION

fell among thieves that stripped and wounded him,
and left him well nigh dead. Now a priest by chance
came down that way, which from the other side
225 saw and passed by. Likewise a Levite came,
and, after he had looked on him, passed by
on the other side. But a Samaritan,
which also journeying came, when he had seen,
felt in his heart compassion; and pouring wine
230 and oil in the wounds, he bound them up, and set
on his own beast the man, and to the inn
brought him and cared for him; and gave two pence,
departing on the morrow, to the host
saying: "Whatsoever thou spendest for him more,
235 I will repay thee when I come again!"

*The
Parable of
the Prodigal Son*

And yet another parable Jesus taught.
Two sons had a certain man. The younger said:
"Give me the portion, Father, of thy goods
that falleth unto me." So the father dealt
240 his possessions out to them. Not many days
thereafter, all together the younger son
gathered, and into a far country took
his journey, where his substance wasted was
in riotous living. When he had spent all,
245 a mighty famine in that land arose,
and he began to want, and joined himself
to a citizen of the country, who in his fields
sent him to feed the swine. And he was fain
to eat the husks the swine ate, but no man
250 gave unto him. So, when he came to himself,
he said: "How many hirelings have bread

THE CHRIST OF THE AGES

in my father's house, enough and to spare, and I
with hunger perish? I will arise and go
and say to my father: "Against heaven I have sinned
255 before thee, and I am not worthy to be called
thy son. Make me as one of thy hired men."
Then he arose and came to his father, who saw
his son yet a great way off and had on him
compassion, and ran, and fell upon his neck
260 and kissed him. But the son said: "I have sinned
against heaven, Father, and in thy sight. No more
am I worthy to be called thy Son." Then he
spake to his servants: "Bring forth the best robe
to clothe him therewithal, and on his hand
265 put ye a ring, and shoes upon his feet,
and kill the fatted calf, and let us make
merry together; for this my son was dead
and is alive again; was lost, and lo!
he is found."

*The
Parable of 270
the elder
brother of
the Prod-
igal Son*

But the elder son was in the field,
who heard, as nigh he drew unto the house,
music and dancing; and one of the servants called,
asking of him what this might mean; who said:
"Thy brother hath come, and the fatted calf is killed
because thy father hath received him sound."
275 Then came his father out entreating him
to enter; but he was angry and would not,
saying: "I have served thee lo! these many years,
neither at any time did I transgress
thy commandment; yet thou never gavest me,
280 that with my friends I might make merry, a kid;

THE TRANSFIGURATION

but now as soon as this thy son has come
 which hath thy goods devoured with harlots, thou—
 killest for him the fatted calf!" Then said
 the father: "Son, thou art ever with me. Thine
 285 is all I have. Was it not meet indeed
 we should be glad? For this thy brother was dead,
 and is alive again, was lost, and is found."

*Having
 preached
 acceptably 290
 Jesus
 addresseth
 him to
 thwart
 them, and
 repelleth 295
 froward
 disciples*

When even was come, and Jesus made an end
 of speaking, he sent the multitude away.
 Then spake a certain scribe: "Lord, I will go
 whithersoever thou goest." Jesus saith
 "Foxes have holes, and the birds of the air nests,
 but the Son of man hath not—where he might lay
 his head!" Another saith, "Suffer me first,
 295 Master, to go and bury my father."—"Call
 no man on earth Father, but God alone,"
 Jesus made answer, "Yea, follow me, and let the dead
 bury their dead." Then into a ship he went
 with his disciples, and commandment gave
 300 to launch forth and pass over. So they sailed,
 and other little ships were with them.

*The Storm
 is stilled
 by the
 word of
 Jesus*

Now,

305 a storm of wind came down upon the sea,
 and into the ship the waves beat that it soon
 was full; but Jesus in the hinder part
 lay on a pillow asleep. Then, sore afraid,
 the disciples woke him crying, "Save us, Lord!
 Carest thou not that we perish?" And He arose
 and said to them: "O ye of little faith,
 why are ye fearful?" and saying: "Peace, be still!"

THE CHRIST OF THE AGES

- 310 the winds and raging waters he rebuked ;
and suddenly there was upon the sea
a great calm, so that all men feared and quaked,
asking of one another : "What manner of man
is this, that He commandeth even the wind
315 and raging waters, and they do obey?"

*Jesus
preacheth
and feed-
eth the
multitude
with five
barley
loaves and
two small
fishes*

- Nevertheless much people having seen
Jesus depart, whither he came awhile
in the wilderness to rest, outwent him a-foot
and ran together. When lifting up his eyes,
320 He saw a very great company come forth
to hear Him ; and with compassion toward them moved,
He taught them of the kingdom many things.
Now the many coming and going, that they had
no leisure, nay, not so much as to eat,
325 and the day far spent already,—the twelve came
and said to Jesus : "Send them, Lord, away,
that in their villages they may buy them bread ;
for they have nothing with them, and this place
is desert." Jesus, knowing what he would do,
330 said : "Why need they depart? Give ye them bread
to eat." And Andrew answered : "We have here
five barley loaves and two small fishes ; but what
were even three hundred pennyworth of bread
amongst five thousand, that each should have a little?"
335 But He : "Bring all ye have to me, and command
the men that they sit down by companies
of fifty," for there was in the place much grass.
Then Jesus took the loaves and fishes, and blessed,
looking to heaven, and brake, distributing

THE TRANSFIGURATION

- 340 to the twelve, and they to them that were set down.
 So all did eat and they were satisfied.
 And Jesus bade the twelve: "Gather ye up
 the fragments that remain." They filled therefore
 twelve baskets with the fragments which were left
 345 over and above to them that ate thereof.

*Wherefore
 the people
 would
 have made
 Jesus King*

- Now those men, seeing the miracle Jesus did,
 said: "Of a truth that prophet which should come
 into the world, is He!" and minded were they
 with one accord to seize and make him King;
 350 wherefore Jesus withdrew and hid himself
 in a high mountain.

*He repell-
 eth the
 multitude
 by strange
 speech of
 the
 heavenly
 bread*

- The day following,
 when thick the people came again, he spake:
 "Seek ye me now to hear the words of life,
 or for that ye ate of the loaves? Labor no more
 355 for meat which perisheth. The bread of God
 is He which cometh down to you from heaven
 and giveth life, that whoso eat thereof
 hungereth not nor dieth. Lo, I am come
 from heaven, that as the Father hath sent me forth,
 360 and I *live* by Him, whosoever eateth Me
 by me shall live."

*Jesus in
 answer to
 the prayer
 for a sign
 uttereth
 beatitudes*

- Then certain of the scribes
 and Pharisees answered: "Master, we would see
 a sign." And deeply in his spirit sighed
 Jesus, and spake: "Why seeketh after a sign
 365 an evil generation, adulterous?"

THE CHRIST OF THE AGES

*and woes
and pre-
dicteth
his own
rejection*

Verily, verily, there shall none be given
save that of the prophet Jonah. The Son of Man
shall be in the heart of the earth three days and nights.
In judgment of this generation the men
370 of Nineveh shall arise, condemning it;
for they at the preaching of Jonah did repent,
and, behold, to you a greater than he is come!
And he that is not with me, of a truth
is against Me, and he that gathereth not with me,
375 scattereth abroad. Lo! blessèd are the poor
for the kingdom of God is theirs. But woe to you,
ye rich! Blessed are they that hunger now,
for they shall be satisfied. But woe to you,
ye that are full! Blessèd are they that weep,
380 for, lo, they shall be comforted. But woe
unto you that laugh! Blessed are they, if men
shall hate and revile them for the Son of Man;
behold, in heaven how great is their reward.
In that day shall they leap for joy. But woe
385 to you of whom all men aloud speak praise;
for so indeed their fathers did of old
unto false prophets. Verily, verily,
the Son of Man must suffer many things,
rejected of the elders, and put to death,
390 and be on the third day raised up again!"

*Jesus
rebuketh
Simon
Peter and*

Now, when that saying openly he spake,
Simon took Jesus aside, rebuking him:
"Be it far from thee, never shall this be done,
Master, to thee!" But Jesus turned about
395 and looked on his disciples, and rebuked

THE TRANSFIGURATION

*winnoweth
his
disciples
with the
word of
God as
John
Baptist
foretold*

Simon: "Get thee behind me, Satan. The things that be of God thou savorest not, but those that be of men." And, when he had called to him the people, he cried in all their ears aloud:
400 "If any man will come after me, let him—deny himself, and take up daily his cross, and follow Me! Think not that I am come to send upon the earth peace—but a sword! And they of his own household shall henceforth
405 be a man's foes: for he that father or son mother or daughter loveth more than Me is not worthy of Me! He that would save his life shall lose it; and he which loseth it for my sake shall verily find it. How profiteth it a man
410 if he shall gain the whole world, yet shall lose his own soul? But the Son of Man shall come to reward all, according to their works. And whosoever in this adulterous and sinful generation shall be ashamed
415 of me and of my words, the Son of Man shall verily, himself be ashamed of him, when in the Father's glory and his own with the holy angels on the clouds of heaven, He cometh to judge the world."

*The
confession
of Simon
Peter and
the other
eleven
that*

Now from this time
420 hearing the words, many went back, and walked no more with Jesus. So that to the twelve He said: "Will ye go also away?" But Simon spake: "To whom Lord, shall we go? Thou hast the words of life eternal, and we do believe

THE CHRIST OF THE AGES

Jesus is very Christ and Lord 425 that thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God.”
 Then Jesus answering saith: “Blessed art thou
 Simon, thou son of Jonah,” (That is to say
 being interpreted out of their tongue
 ‘A Dove;’—in bodily shape whereof, the Spirit
 430 from the open heaven descended, and abode
 on Jesus at his baptism.) “Blessed art thou
 Simon, thou son of Jonah, for flesh and blood
 hath not revealed this unto thee, but One
 which is in heaven,—my Father. Lo, thou art
 435 *Peter*, a stone,—for on *this* rock I build
 my church nor shall the gates of hell prevail
 against it ever. And I will give the keys
 of the kingdom of heaven to thee, that what thou bind
 or loose on earth it shall be bound or loosed
 440 in heaven.”

But Jesus straitly charged the twelve
 that they should tell no man he was the Christ.

Jesus is transfigured before chosen witnesses 445 Six days thereafter into a mountain high
 He took Peter and James and John apart;
 and, as he prayed, transfigured before them—lo—
 the fashion of his countenance was changed,
 his raiment became glistèring like snow,
 as no fuller on earth could white it, and his face
 did shine as doth the sun. Heavy with sleep
 when Peter and James and John awoke, they saw
 450 his glory.

Moses appeareth unto them And two men also in glory appeared,
 of whom the one was Moses, as he came

THE TRANSFIGURATION

down from Mount Sinai, and bare in both his hands
the two stone tables of testimony, nor wist
wherefore the elders of Israel were afraid
455 when he would speak with them, and drew not nigh,
nor durst behold his countenance steadfastly
until over his face he put a veil,
the which he took not off except he went
before the Lord to speak with Him alone.

The other 460 But the other, whom Peter and James and John beheld,
man with
Moses and was Elijah the Tishbite, hairy, about his loins
the Lord girt with the leathern girdle,—he which mocked
is Elijah in Carmel (when the drought had dried the streams)
the the prophets of Baal before all Israëls,
prophet 465 and called from heaven the fire down to consume
upon his altar the burnt sacrifice,
and prove the Lord is God; which slew the men,
four hundred and fifty prophets, by the brook
Kishon, with his own hand; and the heaven was black
with clouds and wind, and abundance of rain fell.

Simon 470 Now Moses and Elijah, in the sight
Peter of Peter, James, and John, with Jesus spake
addresseth of his decease which at Jerusalem
the Master He shortly should accomplish. Peter then
and saith unto Jesus (and wist not what he said)
heareth 475 “Lord, it is good for us to tarry here.
the Voice If thou wilt, let us make three tabernacles—
out of the for Thee one, and for Moses one, and one
cloud for Elijah.” Behold, while yet he spake
there overshadowed them a radiant cloud;

THE CHRIST OF THE AGES

- 480 and Peter and James and John were filled with fear
when they had entered into the bright cloud;
but out of it there came a Voice which said:
"This is my well-belovēd son, hear Him!"
that, sore afraid, they fell upon their face.
- 485 Howbeit, Jesus, when the Voice had passed,
came to them, and touched them, saying: "Be not
afraid!"
- Then lifted they up their eyes, and they beheld
no man with them but Jesus, and arose,
and kept the vision close, nor to any man
- 490 told aught thereof till He was glorified!

TRANSCRIPT IV

The Messianic Entrance



*A council
is assem-
bled to plot
the de-
struction
of Jesus
who with-
draweth
with his
chosen fol-
lowers
into a
desert
place*

- 1 Then gathered the chief priests and Pharisees
a council, and said: "What do we? For, this man
worketh—we can not deny it—notable
miracles; so, that if we let him alone,
5 all will believe on him, and the Romans come
to take from us nation and place away."
But Nicodemus, (the same which went by night
to Jesus), spake: "Our law judgeth no man
before it hear him, and what he doeth, know."
10 They unto Nicodemus answering said:
"Art thou from Galilee also? Search and look,
for there ariseth out of Galilee
no prophet." Straightway Caiaphas arose
and prophesied (being high-priest that year—
15 not of himself.) "Nothing at all ye know,
nor have considered, how expediënt
it were for us one man should die, in stead
of the whole people's perishing." Wherefore
from that day forth they sent out spies to watch
20 Jesus, and, feigning themselves just men, take hold
of words out of his mouth; that they might find
cause to accuse him before the governor,
and put him to death. But Jesus with the twelve
went into a country near the wilderness
25 and there abode.

THE CHRIST OF THE AGES

*Jesus is
taunted by
his brethren
and
replieth*

Now when the time drew nigh
to go unto Jerusalem for the feast,
his brethren, which believed not on Him, said :
“Go thou into Judæa, that the works
thou doest may be manifest, for, what man
30 seeking to make himself known openly
doeth aught in secret?” Jesus saith : “My time
is not yet fully come. But go ye up
unto the feast. You the world can not hate—
though it hateth me, because I testify
35 that the works thereof are evil.”

*The
disciples
go after
Jesus when
he setteth
his face
toward
Jerusalem*

Afterward

He saith to his disciples : “Let us go
into Judæa again.” But they said : “Lord,
the Jews of late did seek to stone thee, and thou
40 goest thither again?”—“Are there not in the day
twelve hours when he that walketh stumbleth not”
Jesus made answer then, “because the light
he seeth of this world?” And He went up
unto the feast. And Thomas, (Didymus
45 surnamed,) to his fellow disciples saith : “Let us
go also, and die with Him.” And they went all,
(Jesus before them) afraid and sore amazed.

*but
understand
not what
he saith
of his
resurrec-
tion*

Now, telling them the third time of the end :
“Behold we go up unto Jerusalem,”
50 He said “and the Son of Man shall be betrayed,
condemned to death of the chief priests and scribes,
delivered to the Gentiles to be mocked
and scourged and crucified ; yet the third day

THE MESSIANIC ENTRANCE

- He shall be raised again!" Nevertheless,
55 exceeding sorry, of the disciples none
this saying understood, and feared to ask.
(For the Scripture as yet they knew not that the Lord
should from the dead arise).

- And Jesus healed
by the wayside, and in all the villages,
60 the blind and lame.

*The little
children
are
brought
unto Jesus
and blessed
of him
and made
the occa-
sion of
doctrine*

- So, as they journeyed on
it came to pass, that unto him were brought
the little children, to lay his hands on them,
and pray. But the disciples, seeing it,
rebuked the people. Jesus, much displeased,
65 called them and said: "Suffer the little ones
to come unto me. Forbid them not. Of such
is the kingdom of my Father." And in his arms
He took, and blessed them. But among themselves
the twelve had reasoned which should greatest be,
70 and Jesus perceiving in their heart the thought,
saith unto them: "Except ye verily turn
and become as little children, even you
shall enter not my kingdom." Then a child
He set in midst of them, saying: "For my sake
75 whosoever this child receiveth, receiveth Me
and Him that sent me."

*The prayer
of James
and John*

And lo, there came to him
the mother of Zebedee's children with her sons
worshipping: "Whatsoever we shall desire,
Master, we ask that thou wouldst do for us."

THE CHRIST OF THE AGES

and their 80 But James and John were they who, (having heard
mother is that Jesus came to send on the earth fire)
answered prayed him, when a village of the Samaritans
of the received him not, (because his face was toward
Lord Jerusalem, and the Samaritans
85 have with the Jews no dealings) to command
(as did Elijah when Ahaziah sent
to inquire of Beelzebub, in Ekron God,)
that fire come down from heaven consuming it;
whom he reprov'd, "What spirit ye are of
90 ye know not." Now to the mother of James and John
(whom Sons of thunder, he surnamed,) he said:
"What wilt thou have me do?" She answered him:
"That thou wouldst grant these my two sons to sit
the one on thy right hand, the other on thy left,
95 when thou art come into thy glory, Lord!"
Then Jesus said: "Ye know not what ye ask.
Can ye—drink of the cup whereof I drink,
and be baptized with the baptism wherewithal
I am baptized?" And they said, "Lord, we can."
100 Howbeit Jesus saith: "Ye shall indeed
drink of my cup, and also be baptized
with the baptism wherewithal I am baptized;
but on my right hand or on my left to sit
is not mine own to give,—seeing unto them
105 it doth belong for whom it was prepared
of my Father which is in heaven."

and the
other
disciples
reprov'd

Wherefore the ten
hearing it, against James and John were moved
with indignation. Jesus, nevertheless

THE MESSIANIC ENTRANCE

- called them and said: "Their princes exercise
110 lordship over the nations, and their great
rule with authority. But thus with you
it may not be. For whosoever is chief
among you, shall the servant be of all;
even as the Son of Man came not to use
115 dominion, but to minister, and give
his life for many."

*James and
John are
sent for
the she ass
and her
colt and 120
Jesus rid-
eth in
triumph*

- When Jesus now was come
to Bethphage, twain he sendeth—James and John
saying: "Go ye into the village and ye shall find,
tied in a place where two ways meet, an ass
and with her also a colt, whereon no man
sat ever. Loose and bring them unto me,
and if the owner ask "why do ye this?"
say ye, "the Lord hath need of them." So James
and John found even as he said, and brought
125 the ass to Jesus, and her foal, and both
covering with their clothes, the disciples set
Jesus upon the colt, and with loud voice
praised God, rejoicing for all his works and words.
And a great multitude spread in the way
130 their garments; from the palm trees others cut
branches to straw before him as he rode
at the descent of Olivet, and cried
together: "Blessed be the king of Israëġ,
who cometh in the name of the Lord God,
135 hosanna to the son of David! Peace,
and glory in heaven, hosanna in the highest!"
But Pharisees, among the multitude,

THE CHRIST OF THE AGES

said: "Thy disciples wilt thou not rebuke,
Master?" And Jesus saith: "If these their peace
140 should hold, I tell you of a truth, the stones
would immediately cry out. Then the Pharisees
murmured among themselves: "Perceive ye not
how in nothing ye prevail? For after Him
the whole world goeth!"

*Jesus
weepeth
over the
city of
Jerusalem
foretelling
her doom*

And it came to pass
145 as he drew near, that Jesus long beheld
the city, and cried aloud:—"Jerusalem,
Jerusalem, thou which stonest the prophets, yea,
and killest them that unto thee are sent,
how oft thy children would not I have called,
150 as under her wings together gathereth
the hen her brood! But ye would not. If thou,
Jerusalem, even thou in this thy day,
hadst known the things belonging to thy peace—
but they are hid now from thine eyes. Behold,
155 the day cometh when that thine enemies shall cast
a trench about thee, and compass thee around,
and keep thee in on every side, and low
lay thee, yea, even with the ground, nor leave
one stone upon another—because the time
160 of this thy visitation thou knewest not!"
And Jesus wept.

*He
cleanseth
the temple
asserting
his
authority*

Into Jerusalem
when Jesus came, the whole city was much moved
saying, "who is this?" "Jesus of Nazareth,"
the multitude cried out, "Jesus, the prophet

THE MESSIANIC ENTRANCE

- 165 of Galilee!" And straightway Jesus went
unto the temple of God, and made of cords
a scourge, and the seats of them that sold the doves,
and the money-changers' tables overthrew,
and drave with the sheep and oxen all that bought
170 and sold out of the temple, and taught: "My house
shall, it is written, be of all nations called
the house of prayer. But ye have made it now
a den of thieves!"

*answering
them that
resent the
joy of the
people in
his words
and deeds*

- And lo: the blind and halt
came in the temple to be healed of him,
175 and when th' chief priests and scribes the wonderful
things
saw which he did, and heard his gracious words,
and the children of the temple cried aloud:
"Hosanna to the Son of David, yea,
hosanna in the Highest," sore displeased,
180 they said to Jesus: "Master, hearest thou
what these say?" "But," he answered them: "have ye
that Scripture never read: 'Out of the mouths
of babes and sucklings have I perfected
my praise?' " Then sought the scribes and the chief
priests
185 how that they might destroy Him, yet they feared
the people, which believed, (because he spake
as never man, and wrought with the power of God,)
that Jesus was a prophet.

*The
widow's
mites*

So, with the twelve
when even was come he went to Bethany;

THE CHRIST OF THE AGES

- 190 but early on the morrow sat again
in the temple, over against the treasury,
and much people had resort to him, and lo!
the rich men cast in gifts unto the Lord.
Now Jesus beheld a widow very poor
195 which threw into the treasury two mites;
and calling unto him the twelve, he taught: "Behold,
this widow, verily, verily I say,
hath cast in more than all. For they indeed
of their abundance made an offering
200 to God, but she of her penury hath given
all that she had. A parable therefore hear:

*The
Parable of
the rich
man and
Lazarus*

- "There was a rich man faring every day
sumptuously, in purple and fine linen clothed;
and, there was also a beggar, Lazarus,
205 laid at his gate, fed on the crumbs which fell
from the rich man's table; and moreover the dogs,
which wander up and down the city for meat,
and grin, and grudge if they be not satisfied,
did compass him about and licked his sores.
210 Now the beggar dying, the angels carried him
into the bosom of Abraham. The rich man
died also and was buried, and in hell
lift up his eyes, tormented, and Abraham
he seeth afar off, and Lazarus
215 in Abraham's bosom. So the rich man cried:
"Have mercy, Father Abraham, and send
Lazarus that in water he may dip
his finger and cool my tongue, for in this flame
I am tormented." Howbeit Abraham spake:

THE MESSIANIC ENTRANCE

- 220 "My Son, remember that in thy lifetime thou
receivedst thy good things, and Lazarus
evil things likewise. Wherefore thou art this day
in grievous plight, and he is comforted.
Beside all this, so that they can not pass
225 from hence to you which would, neither again
to us from thence, there lieth a great gulf fixed."
Then he that had been rich saith: "Father, send
Lazarus I pray thee to my Father's house,
that unto my brethren he may testify,
230 lest they should also come into this place
of torment." Abraham answereth him: "They have
Moses, yea, and the prophets; let them hear
their word." But he, importunate, cried out:
"Nay, Father Abraham, for they would repent
235 if from the dead one went to them."—"My son"
(Abraham answer made) "if they will hear
not Moses, nor the prophets, though a man
rose from the dead, yet could he not persuade
thy brethren to repent them of their ways."

For that 240 *Then tempting Jesus, the Pharisees and scribes*
Jesus hath *brought unto him a woman, and in the midst*
extolled *set her, and said to him: "Master, behold,*
Moses, the *this woman was taken in adultery.*
Pharisees *Now Moses in the Law commanded us*
and Scribes *245 that such be stoned to death. But what sayest thou?"*
strive to *Then, needing not that any should testify*
make him *of man, because he knew what was in man,*
set his *Jesus committed not himself to them,*
authority *stooped down, and wrote with his finger on the ground,*
above that
of Moses,

THE CHRIST OF THE AGES

in the case 250 as though he heard them not. But when the scribes
of a and Pharisees continued asking him,
woman He lifted up himself and said:—"Let him
taken in that is among you without sin, first cast
adultery a stone at her." Jesus again stooped down
255 and wrote upon the ground. Then they which heard,
and had brought the woman to take him in his words,
convicted by their conscience one by one,
beginning at the eldest unto the last,
went out. And Jesus being left alone
260 with his disciples, and in the people's midst
the woman standing, lifted up himself
saying:—"Woman, where be thine accusers gone?
Hath no man yet condemned thee?" And she said:
"Lord,
no man."—"Neither do I condemn thee, go"
265 said Jesus unto her, "and sin no more."

The Then spake he a parable concerning them
Parable of which trusted in their righteousness, and despised
the others: "Two men went, (one a Pharisee
Pharisee a publican the other) for to pray
and the 270 in the temple of the Lord. And the Pharisee
Publican after this manner prayed: "I thank thee God
is related that I am not as other men—unjust
extortioners, adulterers, or even
as yonder Publican. In the week twice
275 fast I, and tithes I give of all my goods."
Now the Publican was standing afar off
nor would so much as lift his eye to heaven
but smote upon his breast saying, "To me

THE MESSIANIC ENTRANCE

a sinner, be merciful, O God." This man
280 went rather than the other, of a truth,
justified down to his house; for every one
that doth exalt himself shall be abased,
and whosoever in spirit doth humble himself
shall be exalted."

*The
Parable 285
of the
vineyard
let out
unto hus-
bandmen*

Again, a parable
(for the common people heard him gladly) he spake
in the hearing of the Scribes and Pharisees.
"A man planted a vineyard and around about
hedged it, and digged a winefat, and a tower
builded, and let it unto husbandmen,
290 and journeyed into a country a great way off,
and there abode. But at the season he sent
his servants to receive the fruits thereof.
Whom, when the husbandmen had seen, they beat
and stoned. Again their lord sent out
295 servants, more than the first, which nevertheless
the husbandmen entreated shamefully;
for some they slew, and drave the rest away
empty. Wherefore the lord of the vineyard said
unto himself: "What shall I do? My son
300 will I send to them, my will-belovèd; for Him
they will surely reverence." But those husbandmen
when afar off they saw the Son, conspired
against him, and reasoned among themselves:
"This is the heir! Come let us kill him; and ours
305 the inheritance shall be!" Then took they him
and slew him, and cast him from the vineyard forth.
What therefore shall the lord of the vineyard do?

THE CHRIST OF THE AGES

shall he not come, and miserably destroy
those wicked men, and let his vineyard out
310 to others which shall in season render him
the fruits thereof?"

*The chief
Priests,
Scribes,
and
Pharisees
are 315
rebuked of
Jesus for
their
hypocrisies*

But the chief priests, the scribes
and the Pharisees, when they heard this parable,
perceiving of whom he spake, cried: "God forbid!"
and forthwith would have taken him, but they feared
the multitude. Then Jesus steadfastly
315 beheld them, lifted up his voice, and spake:—
"Woe unto you, Scribes, Pharisees—hypocrites!
for the kingdom of heaven ye shut up against men,
neither go in yourselves. Behold, ye lade
320 burdens, very heavy and grievous to be borne,
upon their shoulders; though ye touch them not
with one of your fingers. Woe unto you, Scribes,
Pharisees,—hypocrites! for ye enlarge
the borders of your garments, and make broad
325 your phylacteries, and long—to be seen of men—
your prayers, and therefore verily also, yours
shall be the greater damnation! Woe unto you
Scribes, Pharisees—hypocrites! for ye love
at feasts the uppermost room, in synagogues
330 the chiefest seat; when ye would do an alms,
to sound the trumpet before you in the streets;
in the market-place loud greetings, and to be called
"Rabbi, Rabbi!" and to have glory of men,
but seek the honor not—that cometh of God!
335 Woe unto you, Scribes, Pharisees—hypocrites!
blind leaders of the blind, for sea and land

THE MESSIANIC ENTRANCE

ye compass to gain one proselyte, and make
(more than yourselves be) him a child of Hell.
Woe unto you, Scribes, Pharisees—hypocrites!
340 For anise, mint, cummin, rue ye tithe,—and leave
the weightier matters of the law undone :
judgment, faith, mercy, yea, and love of God !
Woe unto you Scribes, Pharisees,—hypocrites !
for your faces ye disfigure, put sackcloth on,
345 and are of a sad countenance, that to fast
ye seem, yet devour—widows' houses ! Woe !
woe unto you Scribes, Pharisees,—hypocrites !
For the outside of the platter and the cup
ye cleanse, howbeit your inward part is full
350 of extortion and excess, of ravening
and wickedness. Woe, woe unto you Scribes,
Pharisees,—hypocrites ! for verily,
ye are like unto the whited sepulchres
which appear beautiful indeed without
355 albeit they be filled with dead men's bones
and all uncleanness. Woe unto you, Scribes,
Pharisees,—hypocrites ! for your fathers stoned
the Prophets and righteous men, and ye their tombs
have builded ; wherefore ye allow the deeds
360 of them that slew them ! Fill the measure up
ye serpents, of your fathers' iniquity.
If ye were children of Abraham, ye would do
the works of Abraham. Of the devil ye are,
which was from the beginning a *murdärer*
365 and liar ; wherefore ye believe me not
and seek to kill me—a man which telleth you
the truth that he hath heard from God ! Of Hell

THE CHRIST OF THE AGES

how can ye then escape the damnation? Lo,
I send wise men and prophets unto you.—

- 370 Some ye shall kill and crucify; and scourge
others from city unto city, that on you
may come all the righteous blood shed upon earth
from the blood of righteous Abel to the blood
of Zacharias, whom ye slew between
375 the temple and the altar. Verily, verily
this generation passeth not away
before all these my words shall be fulfilled!"

*Jesus goeth
out of the
temple and
foretelleth
its
destruction*

- And having spoken, out of the temple went
Jesus. But his disciples said, "Behold,
380 Master, what manner of buildings be not these
adorned with goodly stones and precious gifts!"
And Jesus answered them and said: "One stone
shall not upon another be left thereof
that shall not be cast down!"

*and in
answer to
questions
uttereth a
prophecy
of the
fall of
Jerusalem
and the
last days*

- And afterward,
385 as over against the temple Jesus stood
upon the Mount of Olives, Peter and James
and John and Andrew asked him: "Tell us, Lord,
what sign appeareth when this shall come to pass?"
And Jesus answered: "When ye hear of wars,
390 and rumours of wars; of kingdom against kingdom,
nation against nation rising. And there shall be
great earthquakes, famines sore, and pestilences
and fearful sights from heaven! But fear not ye,
for these are the beginnings only of woe.

THE MESSIANIC ENTRANCE

- 395 Not yet cometh the end. First upon you
shall they lay hands, and persecute you and kill.
For my name's sake, of all men hated, betrayed
of kinsfolk, friends and brethren shall ye be.
Howbeit, in patience shall ye possess your souls.
- 400 For whosoever of you unto the end
endureth, shall be saved. Behold, the sun
shall darken, and the moon not give her light;
from heaven the stars shall fall; and upon earth,
the sea, and the waves roaring, and men's hearts
- 405 for terror failing them, because of heaven
the powers are shaken. And, lo, the Son of Man
in the clouds cometh with all glory and might,
and sendeth forth, to the sound of the great trump,
his angels, that they gather his elect
- 410 from the four winds—from the uttermost part of earth,
to the uttermost part of heaven. Then lift ye up
your heads, and look! for of your redemption nigh
draweth the hour. Yea, heaven and earth shall pass,
yet my words shall remain. Howbeit no man
- 415 knoweth of that hour, nor the angels even of God,
no, nor the Son—but the Father alone in heaven.
For, as in the days before the flood, men ate,
drank, married and gave in marriage till the time
that the flood came down and swallowed them up quick;
- 420 so also shall it be when the Son of Man
cometh. Watch ye, therefore, and pray always
that ye be accounted worthy to escape
all these things—and before the Son of man
to stand!"

THE CHRIST OF THE AGES

*In the
house of
Simon the
woman
taken in
adultery
anointeth
Jesus*

Now Jesus sat, when the even was come,
425 in the house of one,—Simon the Pharisee,
of Bethany,—at meat. And the woman he saved
from her accusers knew that he was there;
and came and brought an alabaster box
of spikenard very precious, and at his feet
430 wept, and with tears washed them; and brake the box
of alabaster, and poured the ointment out
upon his feet, and wiped them with her hair,
and kissed them. Whereupon the house was filled
with the sweet odor, and some within themselves
435 had indignation, and said: "Why was this waste?
Might it not have been sold for much, and given
unto the poor?" But Jesus answering, saith:
"Why trouble ye the woman? The poor alway
ye have with you to do them good; but Me
440 ye have not alway. Anointing aforehand
my body to the burial, she hath done
all that she could. And throughout the whole world,
yea,
wherever is preached the gospel, verily
shall this, which she hath wrought on me, be told
445 for a memoriäl of her."

*The host
murmur-
eth against
Jesus*

Then spake
he which had bidden Him within himself:
"If this man were a prophet, assuredly
he would have known what manner of woman is she
that toucheth him." But Jesus saith to him:
450 "Simon, I have to tell thee somewhat."—"Master,"
he answereth, "Say on."—"A creditor

THE MESSIANIC ENTRANCE

there was which had two debtors. One
five hundred pence, the other fifty owed.
And frankly, when they had naught wherewith to pay,
445 the man forgave them both. Which, thinkest thou,
will love him most?"

*and is
reproved
of the
Lord and
the woman
praised 460
for her
much love*

And Simon answer made:
"The same, whom he forgave the most." Then turned
Jesus unto the woman and said: "Seest thou
Simon, this woman? I entered into thine house,
and thou gavest me no water for my feet.
465 And lo, this woman hath washed them with her tears,
and wiped them with her hair. Thou gavest me
no kiss; but since I came she hath not ceased
to kiss my feet. Thou anointedst not with oil
my head; but she with spikenard hath my feet
470 anointed. Wherefore of a truth I say
her sins which are many shall be all forgiven,
for much she loveth." And unto Mary he said:—
"Thy sins are forgiven thee. Go in peace. Thy faith
hath saved thee." And away she went in joy.

TRANSCRIPT V

The Passover

*Judas
agreeth to
betray
Jesus for
thirty
pieces of
silver, in
the absence
of the
people*

- 1 Now as the feast of unleavened bread drew nigh,
to the twelve saith Jesus (knowing his hour was come
that unto the Father he should out of the world
depart) : "Yet two more days, ye wit, and lo,
5 the Pássover, whereon the Son of man
shall be betrayed and crucified." Then him,—
who, numbered with the apostles, bare the bag—
Judas, surnamed Iscariot, straightway
did Satan enter. Howbeit, against the feast,
10 the Lord commanded him to buy all things
needful, and Judas went. And it came to pass
that unto the palace of Caiaphas at that time,—
consulting with the Captains of the guard
how Jesus they might take by subtlety
15 or craft to kill him,—the chief priests and scribes
and elders were assembled. Nevertheless
"Not at the feast" they said "lest an uproar
be made among the people." When hereof
Judas had heard, with the Captains of the guard
20 the elders, the chief priests, the Pharisees
and Scribes he communed long, and they were glad,
promising money. Wherefore Judas said :
"If in the absence of the multitude
I shall into your hand deliver him—
25 what will ye give me?" Then they covenanted

THE CHRIST OF THE AGES

for the ransom of a slave, (the goodly price
at which they valued him in Israël!)
and from the temple treasury weighed they out
even thirty pieces of silver. From that hour
30 convenient opportunity Judas sought
to betray Jesus.

*Jesus
instructeth
Peter and
John where
to make
ready the
Passover*

When the first day was come
of the unleavened bread, and th' Passover must be
killed,
the twelve asked, saying: "Master, where wouldst Thou
have us prepare for Thee, that thou mayest eat
35 the Passover?" So Peter and John he sent:—
"Unto the city go, prepare for us
the passover that we may eat it. Lo,
when ye are entered, there shall meet you a man
a pitcher of water bearing. Follow him,
40 and say ye, wheresoever he shall go in,
unto the goodman of the house: "To thee
sendeth the Master word by us: "My time
is nigh at hand, and in thine house I keep
the Passover. Where is the guest-chamber then
45 that I may eat it, with my disciples, there?"'
and he shall shew you a large upper room,
furnished, where make ye ready." Peter and John
went, therefore, and did as was commanded them,
and came into the city, and everything
50 found even as Jesus said.

*The lamb
is slain in
the temple*

Now, to observe
unto the Lord their God the Passover,

THE PASSOVER

*according
to the rite*

- and sanctify themselves, in Jerusalem
a very great congregation gathered were ;
and in the temple, after sacrifice
- 55 at even, the singers praised with cheerful voice,
and instruments of music in their place,
the Lord, saying : "Sing we merrily aloud,
bring hither psaltery, timbrel, harp and lute,
and make to God our strength a joyful noise.
- 60 In the new moon, at the appointed time,
blow up the trumpet for our solemn feast !"
And Peter and John took from the sheep a lamb,
one without blemish, a male of the first year,
(which Judas bought, and showed unto the priest
- 65 before) and laying (or ever were lit the lamps
upon the seven-branched golden candlestick,
and the censers taken, filled with coals of fire
from off the altar, to burn, of spices sweet
compounded, the holy incense) on the head
- 70 thereof their hand, killed it before the Lord ;
and the priests brought in golden bowls the blood
(which is the life of flesh, and for the soul
maketh atonement) yea, and sprinkled it
on the altar round about, and Levites flayed
- 75 the lamb. Moreover, the singers sang an hymn :
"I am the Lord thy God. Open wide thy mouth,
and I shall fill it. But Israel would not hear
my voice ; wherefore unto their own hearts' lusts
I gave them up. Yet O that, hearkëning,
- 80 my people would walk humbly in my ways :
then should their day endure forever more !"

THE CHRIST OF THE AGES

*Peter and
John make
all things
ready*

85 So Peter and John out of the temple went,
and roasted with fire the Passover, nor break
a bone thereof; and bitter herbs and bread
unleavened, (according to all the ordinances
and rites,) made ready in the upper room
which the master of the house had shewed to them.

*Jesus
sitteth him
down with
the twelve
at meat*

90 Now in the evening, Jesus with the twelve
cometh, and having loved unto the end
his own, saith: "Very greatly have I desired
to eat with you, before I suffer, this last
Passover; for, until it be fulfilled
in the Kingdom of God, I say unto you, no more
shall I from henceforth eat it." Then the cup
95 He taketh, giveth thanks, and saith: "Divide
among yourselves, for verily, verily
Of the fruit of the vine I will not drink again,
until the day when I shall drink it new
in the kingdom of my Father."

*Jesus
teacheth
the law of
greatness
in the
kingdom
by taking
upon
himself a
slave's
office*

100 Among the twelve
had strife arisen as touching which of them
should, being accounted greatest, occupy
the chief seats at the supper, and Jesus spake:
"Whether think ye is the greater of the twain—
who sitteth at meat or he which serveth him?
105 But lo, with you as he that serveth am I;
appointing, (as the Father unto Me,)
a kingdom unto you (which still with me
continue in my temptations,) that Ye eat
and at my table drink, and sit on thrones

THE PASSOVER

- 110 to judge the tribes of Israël." Now John,
whom Jesus loved, and he which bare the bag
Judas, Iscariot named, at either hand
sat of their Master, and in the lowest room
Simon. And Jesus (knowing that all things
115 were given him of the Father in his hand,
and that he was from God come forth, and went
to God), from supper riseth, and aside
layeth his garment, and about his loins
with the towel girdeth himself, and pouring out
120 water in a basin cometh to Peter first.
But Simon saith: "Lord, dost Thou wash *my* feet?"
And Jesus answering, said: "That which I do
thou knowest not now, but shalt hereafter know."
And Simon saith again: "Never *my* feet
125 shalt Thou, Lord, wash!" And Jesus answered him:
"If so I wash thee not, no part with Me
hast thou." Then Peter crieth out aloud:—
"Not my feet only, but my hands and head
also, O Lord!" So Jesus washed his feet,
130 saying: "Simon, he that every whit is clean
no need hath, saving that he wash his feet,
soiled with the dust of the highway. Ye are clean;
howbeit not all of you."

*Jesus
explaineth
that which
he hath
done unto
his
disciples*

- And afterward
- 135 when unto all the twelve He had done the same
and taken again his robe, and was set down,
He said: "Know ye what I have done to you?
Ye call me Master and Lord, and ye say well,
for so I am. If verily I, the Lord

THE CHRIST OF THE AGES

*and
biddeth 140
them do
likewise*

and Master, then have washed your feet ye ought
likewise to wash each one the other's feet.
Lo, an ensample have I given, that you
might do as I have done. Not greater indeed
he that is sent than Whoso sendeth him!
Blessèd of a truth are ye, if knowing these things
145 ye do them. But I speak not of you all.
I know whom I have chosen. Of my bread
he that hath eaten lifteth up his heel
against me. And behold I tell it you
before it come to pass, to the intent
150 ye may afterward believe that I am HE!
Verily, verily say I unto you
he that receiveth whomsoever I send
receiveth Me; and who receiveth Me
receiveth HIM that sent me!"

*Jesus as
head of his 155
house
telleth the
meaning
of the
feast*

When he had done
speaking after this manner to the twelve,
in order of the rite the youngest asked
"What mean ye by this feast?" And Jesus spake
answering, "It is the service of the Lord's
Passover. For, when Pharo hardened his heart
160 that out of Egypt our fathers should not go,
the Lord bade every man take for his house
a lamb from among the sheep or goats,—a lamb
without a blemish, a male of the first year,—
and in the even kill; and in the blood
165 dipping a bunch of hyssop, strike therewith
the lintel and two sideposts of the door,

THE PASSOVER

- that till the morning none should issue forth
out of the house; but roast the lamb with fire,
and eat the flesh thereof with bitter herbs,
170 and with the unleavened bread of their affliction.
So in haste our fathers girt their loins, and ate,
shoes on their feet, and in their hand the staff.
And in that night the Lord, throughout the land
of Egypt, smote the first-born, down from him
175 which sat upon the throne, to the prisoner
that in his dungeon lay; but when the blood
He saw, passed over the houses of Israël. Thus
brought the Lord God our fathers forth, with arm
outstretchèd, and with a mighty hand."

*The psalm
of thanks-
giving is
sung of
them all*

- Then sang
180 the twelve this psalm: "Bless ye the Lord, and praise
his holy name, from the rising of the sun
to the going down thereof, now and henceforth
forevermore! What God is like our God
that humbleth himself, although He dwell on high,
185 beholding things in heaven and things in earth?
When Jacob out of Egypt came of old
from among strangers, was not Israël
his sanctuary and dominion? The sea saw
and fled. Jordan was driven back. Like rams
190 the mountains skipped, and like the young of the fold
the little hills! At the presence of the Lord
tremble O earth! at the presence of our God
which into standing water turned the rock,
and into springing wells the wilderness!"

THE CHRIST OF THE AGES

Jesus foretelleth his betrayal 195 When thus they had according to the rite
spoken and sung together, Jesus waxed
troubled in spirit and testified: "Verily,
verily, of you, which eat with me this night,
one shall betray me!" The disciples looked
200 each on the other exceeding sorrowful,
and doubted of whom he spake, among themselves
inquiring which it was should do this thing.
Then said they unto Jesus one by one
"Lord, is it I?" And answering, Jesus spake:
205 "Who dippeth in the dish with me his hand,
the same betrayeth me! The Son of man
goeth of a truth as it is written of Him,
but woe to him by whom He is betrayed;
good were it that he never had been born!"

Jesus communeth with Judas 210 Now unto him which leaned on Jesus' breast,
the disciple whom he loved, did Simon Peter
beckon, that he should ask the Lord of whom
He spake. So, lying in Jesus' bosom, John
saith: "Lord, which is the man?" Wherefore the Lord
215 answered him saying: "He it is to whom,
when I have dipped it in the dish, I first
shall give the sop." Howbeit at his right,
Judas asked "Master is it I?" The sop
then giving unto him, that he alone
220 should hear it, Jesus made him answer: "Thou
hast said!" So after he gave the sop, straightway
Satan into Judas entering, Jesus said:
"Do quickly that thou doest." But no man
at table knew to what intent He spake.

THE PASSOVER

- 225 Wherefore, Judas, having received the sop,
arose; and he went out immediately,
and it was night.

*Jesus
ordaineth
the Lord's
Supper
and telleth
them of
his
departure*

- When Judas was gone forth
Jesus unto the eleven said: "Glorified
is now the Son of Man, and God in him
is glorified. Little children, yet a while
am I with you, but afterward shall ye seek
and find me not; for ye, whither I go
can come not. Wherefore unto you I give
a new commandment, and by this all men
235 shall verily know that ye have learned of Me:
If even as I have loved you, ye do love
one another also. Who hath greater love
than that he lay down for his friends—his life?"
So Jesus, as they sat at meat, took bread,
240 and giving thanks, he blessed it, brake, and gave
to his disciples; saying: "Take, and eat.
It is my body broken now for you.
This in remembrance do—of Me." Likewise,
after the supper, Jesus took the cup,
245 and when he had given thanks, said: "Drink ye all
of this—the Cup of the New Covenant—
made in my blood, shed unto remission of sins
for you and many; and as oft as ye shall drink
thereof, in remembrance do ye this—of Me!
250 And verily as to the Jews I said
so say I unto you. Except the flesh
of the Son of man ye eat, and drink his blood
ye have in you no life. My flesh indeed

THE CHRIST OF THE AGES

is meat, and my blood, drink; and whosoever
 255 liveth by Me shall hunger not, nor thirst;
 and at the last day will I raise him up.
 The words I speak are spirit and are life.
 Let not your heart be troubled. Ye believe
 in God, believe therefore in Me. Behold,
 260 many mansions are there in my Father's house,
 and I, to prepare a place for you, must go;
 but that ye also may be where I am
 to receive you unto myself I come again,
 and whither I go ye know the way."

*Thomas
 and Philip
 inquire of
 Jesus
 whither he
 goeth, and
 of the
 Father;
 and Jesus
 maketh
 answer*

Then saith
 265 Thomas, surnamed Didymus, "Whither O Lord,
 Thou goest we know not, how then can we know
 the way?" But Jesus spake: "I am the way,
 the truth, the life; and no man but by me
 cometh unto the Father. Had ye known
 270 Me, verily, ye should likewise then have known
 the Father." Philip of Bethsaida
 (which to Nathaniel saying "can there come
 good out of Nazareth?" answered "come and see"—
 the same which certain Grecians at the feast
 275 to worship Jesus brought) saith: "Show us Lord,
 the Father, and it sufficeth us."—"With you
 so long time have I been, and hast not thou
 Philip, known Me?" spake Jesus then "who Me
 hath seen, hath seen the Father. Believest thou
 280 that I am in the Father and He in me?
 The words I speak, I speak not of myself.
 Believe me, or else—for the work's sake believe

THE PASSOVER

which the Father worketh until now through me.
Verily, verily greater works than these
285 shall they do which on me believe, because
I go unto the Father. In my name
whatsoever ye shall ask, to glorify
the Father in the Son, that will I do.
Lo, yet a little while, and me the world
290 seeth no more; again a little while
(because I go to the Father, and I live
and ye live also,) ye shall see me, and know
that I am in the Father and ye in me,
and I in you."

*How Jesus
will
manifest
himself
not unto
the world
but unto
them that
love him*

But one of the eleven
295 asked: "Lord, how wilt thou manifest thyself,
not to the world, but only unto us?"
"A man, if he will love me," Jesus spake,
"keepeth my words, and my Father loveth him,
and, coming, we will make abode with him.
300 Rejoice if that ye love me; for I go
unto the Father, and greater than I is He.
Neither let your heart be troubled nor afraid:
My peace I leave with you, my peace I give,
and not as the world giveth. Comfortless
305 I leave you not; for the Father will I pray
that He shall send you another Comforter—
the Spirit of truth—whom, as it seeth not
nor knoweth, the world can not receive,—but ye
shall know him, for that he shall dwell in you
310 and to remembrance call whatever words
I spake with you. Before they come to pass,

THE CHRIST OF THE AGES

these things all have I told you. For the prince
of this world cometh, and findeth naught in me,
but that ye may believe, and the world know,
315 that I the Father love, and as He gave
commandment unto me, even so I do.
Arise, let us go hence."

*The hymns
sung when
the meal
was done*

Then sang they an hymn:
"I love the Lord because he hath heard my voice.
The sorrows of death compassed me round about,
320 upon my soul the pains of hell gat hold.
Wherefore I called on the name of the Lord: 'O Lord
my life deliver thou!' and bountifully
He dealt, for gracious and merciful is He.
The Lord my God which saved my soul from death,
325 my feet from falling and mine eyes from tears.
Lo! in the land of the living I will walk
before Him, for right precious in his sight
shall be the death of them which are his saints.
Behold, how truly I am thy servant, Lord,
330 the son of thine handmaiden. My bonds hast thou
even knapped in sunder, wherefore unto thee
I will offer, with thanksgiving, sacrifice,
and call upon thy name. The Lord be praised!"

*The
Parable of
the vine;
and how
the Lord*

Now Jesus spake a parable: "The true Vine
335 am I, and my Father is the husbandman.
And every branch that beareth not his fruit
He taketh away, and purgeth every branch
which bore, that much it bear. I am the Vine,
the branches ye; and whoso as a branch

THE PASSOVER

*speaketh
plainly
to the
disciples*

- 340 abideth in me, and I in him, the same
bringeth good fruit forth. But if any man
in me abide not as a branch, cast out
is he and withered, and men gather such
with fire to burn them. Herein glorified
345 shall be my Father that ye bear much fruit.
Ye know if the world hate you, that before
it hated me. Yea, verily, the day
cometh that whosoever killeth you
shall think he doeth God service, knowing not
350 the Father. Yet many things have I to say;
but ye can not bear them now. Nevertheless
it is expedient that I go away;
for if I go, from the Father will I send
the Spirit which shall lead into all truth,
355 and me—of mine receiving—glorify.
All that the Father hath is mine. Till now
in parables have I spoken unto you,
yet lo, the time cometh and is at hand
when of the Father plainly shall I shew:
360 From him am I come forth into the world,
again I leave the world and go to Him.
And He, because ye love me, loveth you
Himself.”

*Jesus
foretelleth
the scatter-
ing of his
disciples
and com-
forteth
them*

The disciples say to Jesus: “Lo!
now speakest thou plainly, and no parable!
365 Now are we sure thou knowest all. By this
do we believe thou camest forth from God.”
And Jesus, steadfastly regarding them,
saith: “Do ye now believe? Behold the hour

THE CHRIST OF THE AGES

cometh, yea, and now is come, that ye shall all
370 be scattered, leaving me alone. Yet I
because the Father ever is with me
am not alone. Be of good cheer: the world
I have overcome."

*Jesus
uttereth
his high
priestly
prayer
for his
disciples*

And he lifted up his eyes
to heaven and prayed: "Father, the hour is come,
375 on earth I have glorified thee and finished the work
thou gavest me to do. O Father now
with thine own self (the glory which was mine
before the world was) glorify thou me.
To the men thou gavest me out of the world
380 I have made manifest thy name, and they
believe that thou hast sent me, and that I
came forth from thee. O Father, I pray for them.
Lo, they are thine. Neither for these alone,
but them, which through their word shall yet believe,
385 I pray. To thee I come. Not of the world
are these, as I am not. Thou sentest me;
so also send I them into the world,
and them it hateth as it hateth me.
Father, I pray thee not out of the world
390 to take them, but that from the Evil One
thou shouldest ever keep them. Through thy word
sanctify thou them for whose sake I myself
have sanctified. For unto them give I
the glory which thou gavest me, that they
395 may be made perfect, as we are, in One.
And that the love, wherewith thou lovedst me
from the foundation of the world, in them
shall dwell, and I in them, and Thou in me."

THE PASSOVER

*Jesus
singeth an
hymn with
his
disciples
ere they
go forth*

Then all, before they went forth, sang the hymn :
400 "Give thanks unto the Lord, for he is good,
and ever his mercy endureth. In distress
I called, and the Lord heard me. On my side
is He. What shall I fear that man can do?
He is my strength, my joy, and is become
405 my strong salvation. The right hand of the Lord
hath the preeminence. The right hand of the Lord
bringeth mighty things to pass. I shall not die,
but live to praise His works who sheweth us light.
Bless ye the Lord our God, for he is good,
410 yea, and his mercy endureth evermore!"

TRANSCRIPT VI

The Passion

*Jesus
crosseth
the brook
Kidron
with his
disciples*

- 1 So, having sung the hymn, went Jesus forth,
and his disciples with him, to the Mount
where was a garden whither he oftentimes
on Olivet resorted; and the place
5 was known to Judas. Wherefore, when He crossed
over the black brook, Kidron, Jesus saith:
“Simon, Simon that he might sift you as wheat,
Satan desired to have you. But for thee
have I besought my Father, that thy faith
10 fail not. Stablish, when thou art turned again,
thy brethren also.” Then Jesus spake: “Behold,
ye shall be all offended in Me this night;
for it is written: ‘the Shepherd of the flock
I smote, and scattered were the sheep abroad.’
15 But, after I am risen, into Galilee
I go before you.”

*Jesus
fortelleth
Peter's
denial and
warneth
all the
disciples of
spiritual
danger*

- “Whither” asked Peter “Lord,
goest thou? Why can I not follow Thee
even now? I am ready, Lord, with Thee to go
into prison and to death; and although all
20 be offended because of Thee, yet will not I,
but for thy sake I will lay down my life.”
“Wilt thou for my sake” Jesus saith “lay down
thy life? Yea, verily, verily this day

THE CHRIST OF THE AGES

- even this night, before the cock crow twice,
25 thrice that thou knowest me shalt thou deny!"
But Peter the more vehemently affirmed:
"I will not in any wise deny thee, Lord,
though with Thee I should perish" and the same
said all the disciples also. Jesus spake:
30 "When without purse I sent you and scrip and shoes
lacked ye for anything? But now I say
he that of you hath purse, or scrip likewise,
shall take it; and let him, which hath no sword,
to buy one sell his garment."—"Lord," said they
35 "Behold two swords!" But he: "It is enough."

*Jesus
prayeth in
an agony
unto the
Father
thrice, and
thrice re-
proveth his
disciples,
Peter,
James
and John*

- When He was come unto Gethsemane,
upon the Mount of Olives, Jesus saith
to his disciples: "Sit ye here, while I
go yonder and pray." And taking James and John
40 and Peter, He began to be sore amazed
and very heavy, and saith to them: "My soul
is exceeding sorrowful, yea, unto death.
Tarry ye here, and watch with me a while."
And forward He went a little, a stone's-cast
45 withdrawn from them, kneeled down upon the ground,
fell on his face and prayed, saying: "All things
are possible, O my Father unto Thee.
Take, take from me this cup. Nevertheless,
not as I will, but as Thou wilt." From heaven
50 an angel there appeared to strengthen him.
But Jesus prayed the more instantly, his sweat
falling in an agony upon the ground,
yea, as it were great drops of blood. From prayer

THE PASSION

- Jesus then riseth up, and cometh again
55 to his disciples, and findeth them asleep,
and toucheth Peter saying: "Sleepest thou?
What? Couldst thou not watch with me, even thou
Simon, one hour? Rise, watch and pray, lest ye
enter into temptation; for, in truth
60 the spirit is ready, but the flesh is weak."
And Jesus went away the second time
and prayed, saying: "Abba, Father, O, if thou
be willing remove from me this cup." And lo!
He cometh to Peter and James and John again,
65 findeth them sleeping, and He saith to them:
"Why sleep ye?" But with sorrow were their eyes
heavy, nor wist they what to answer him.
And Jesus once more saith "watch ye, and pray,"
and went and spake the third time the same words:
70 "If this cup, O my Father, may not pass
away from me except I drink of it—
not my will,—Thine, be done." Then cometh He
and saith to his disciples: "Sleep on, now,
and take your rest! It is enough. Behold,
75 the hour is come. Betrayed into the hands
of sinners is the Son of Man. Rise up,
let us be going, for he draweth nigh
that doth betray Me."

*Judas ap-
proacheth*

- And lo, while He yet spake
immediately Judas came—one of the twelve,
80 which knew the place—leading a band of men
and officers, which the Pharisees, the chief Priests,
the Scribes and the Elders of the people sent

THE CHRIST OF THE AGES

with swords and torches ; and a great multitude
with staves and lanterns followed.

*Judas
kisseth
the Lord*

- Now, a token
85 had Judas given : "Whomsoever I shall kiss
that same is He. Take him and hold him fast,
and lead him safely away." So Judas said,
as soon as he drew nigh to Jesus : "Hail,
Master!" and kissed Him. Jesus answered him :
90 "Friend, wherefore art thou come? The Son of Man
betrayest thou, Judas, with a kiss?"

*Jesus
meeteth the
multitude
and they
fall to the
ground*

- All things
knowing which yet should come on him, straightway
went Jesus forth, and asked : "Whom seek ye here?"
And they said : "Jesus of Nazareth!"—"I am He"
95 He answered, and they fell back to the ground.
A second time he asked "Whom seek ye?" and they
answered again : "Jesus of Nazareth!"
"That I am He I told you," Jesus said
"If Me ye seek, leave these to go their way."

*Peter
offereth
to defend
the Lord ;
whom
Jesus
answereth*

- 100 Peter said "Master, shall we with the sword
smite them?" stretched out his hand, and drew and
smote
Malchus therewith, a servant of the High Priest,
and struck his right ear off. But Jesus said
to Simon Peter : "Simon, into his sheath
105 put up thy sword. For they which take the sword
shall perish with the sword. What, thinkest thou
I can not pray my Father and presently

THE PASSION

more than twelve legions of angels shall He send?
But the cup my Father giveth me—must not I
110 drink it? For else, how should concerning Me
the Scriptures of the Prophets be fulfilled?
Suffer thus far.”

*Jesus
giveth
himself up
unto the
multitude* 115 And Jesus touched the ear,
and forthwith healed it; and spake in that same hour
unto the multitude, the Captains, the Chief Priests
and Elders: “As against a thief with swords
and staves be ye come out to take me? Daily
Taught I not in the temple? Yet your hands
there to lay hold of Me ye stretched not forth.
But this was done that the Scripture be fulfilled;
120 and now is the power of Darkness—and your hour!”
Wherefore the Captain and the Officers
took Jesus, bound, and led him in their midst
out of the Garden of Gethsemane
in Olivet; and his disciples all
125 forsook him and fled.

*Jesus is
brought
before
Annas:
Peter
denieth his
Master* 130 Now the whole multitude
Brought Jesus to the house of Annas first,
the father-in-law of Caiaphas, who that year
had been appointed in his room High Priest.
And it was cold. Wherefore the officers
and servants kindled in the hall a fire,
and were set down together and warmed themselves.
Now Peter had followed afar off, and stood
without the palace porch to see the end;
so John, who being known to the High Priest

THE CHRIST OF THE AGES

135 entered with Jesus, to the damsel spake
that kept the door, and forthwith brought him in.
But the damsel saith to Peter: "Wast thou not
with Jesus of Galilee? Thou art also one
of his disciples!" And Peter before all
140 denied: "I am not, neither do understand
whereof thou speakest!" Then he went and sat
with the servants and officers, and warmed himself
at the fire of coals.

*Annas
maketh
enquiry
concerning
the
doctrine
and
disciples
of Jesus* But Annas rose and asked
Jesus concerning the doctrine which he taught,
and his disciples, and He answered then:
145 "Openly spake I to the world, and ever
taught in the temple and the synagogue
whither all men resort; nor anything
spake I in secret. Wherefore askest thou me?
150 Ask them which heard Me! What I said, behold,
they know!" When thus he had spoken, an Officer,
which stood hard by, struck with the palm of the hand
Jesus, saying: "Answerest thou the High Priest so?"
But He made answer: "If I have spoken ill,
155 bear witness of that evil; but if well
why smitest thou Me?"

*Peter
denieth
the Lord
again
twice* Then cometh one of the maids
of the High Priest, and looketh narrowly
on Peter, and saith to them which stood near by:
"This fellow was with Jesus of Nazareth."
160 Thou art one of his disciples." With an oath
Peter denied: "I do not know the Man."

THE PASSION

- And the cock crew. After a little while,
when he was gone into the porch, came they
which stood about, saying: "Thou art surely one.
165 Thou art a Galilean, for thy speech
bewrayeth thee." And a servant of the High Priest,
kinsman to him whose ear Peter cut off,
did confidently affirm: "Yea, of a truth
thou art one of them. Saw I not thee with Him
170 in the garden?" Peter began to curse and swear:
"I know not what thou sayest, nor this Man
of whom ye speak." And immediately the cock,
while yet he spake, did crow the second time.
And the Lord turned and looked on Simon, and he
175 remembered how the Lord had said to him:
"Before the cock twice crow, verily, thrice
shalt thou deny me." And he went out, and wept
bitterly.

- Jesus
before
Caiaphas
declareth
that he is
Christ,
and is
condemned
to death,
and
mocked*
- Now as soon as it was day,
the Chief Priests and the Elders and the Scribes
180 were all assembled and together held
in the palace of Caiaphas council. Thither, bound,
Annas sent Jesus likewise to the High Priest;
which sought for witness, but against Him none
found, although testifying many came—
185 false witnesses. But there arose at last
twain which did say: "We have heard that fellow boast:
"This temple made with hands will I destroy,
and, without hands, build another in three days."
Yet neither so their witness would agree.
190 Then in the midst stood the High Priest and asked

THE CHRIST OF THE AGES

- Jesus: "Thou answerest nothing? What is that which these against Thee witness?" But his peace He held, and answered not. So the high priest inquired again: "Tell us, art Thou the Christ?"
- 195 "If I shall tell you, ye will not believe; nor answer if I ask, nor let me go."
But th' High Priest answered: "By the living God adjure I thee, that thou declare to us whether Thou be the Christ or no, the Son
- 200 of the Blessèd?" Jesus answered: "Thou hast said. Nevertheless I say unto you, that ye hereafter shall behold the Son of Man seated on the right hand of power, and coming in clouds of heaven!" "Art Thou" then cried they all
- 205 "The Son of God?" and Jesus said: "I AM."
Forthwith the High Priest rent his clothes, and said: "What need of further witness? Ye have heard of his own mouth the blasphemy he hath spoken. What think ye?" To be guilty of death, they all
- 210 condemned him. Then began the men, which held Jesus, to buffet Him, and in his face to spit; and when they had blindfolded Him, the servants mocked and smote Him with their hands, saying: "Prophecy, thou Christ, who smiteth Thee?"
- 215 And blasphemously many other things spake they against Him.

*Jesus is
taken
before Pon-
tius Pilate
and accused*

But straightway the Chief Priests held with the Rulers of the people and Scribes a consultation; that the whole multitude, as soon as it was morning, rose, and bound,

THE PASSION

- 220 and from the palace of Caiaphas led away
Jesus into the Governor's judgment hall;
yet went not in themselves, lest for the feast
they be defiled. So Pontius Pilate, then
the Roman Governor, came forth, and asked:
225 "What accusation bring ye against this Man?"
And the Chief Priests made answer: "Unto thee
would we deliver Him up if he were not
a malefactor?" and loudly they began
to accuse Jesus: "We this fellow have found
230 perverting the nation, forbidding that men pay
tribute to Cæsar, for that He himself
is Christ, a king." And Pontius Pilate said:
"Take Him yourselves, and according to your law
judge Him." But the Chief Priests and Elders said:
235 "It is not for us lawful to put any man
to death."

*Pontius
Pilate
examineth
Jesus and
declareth
him
innocent*

- Wherefore into the judgment hall
Pilate went in, and before him Jesus stood.
"Art Thou," the Governor asked, "the King of the
Jews?"
Jesus made answer: "Sayest thou of thyself
240 this thing, or did another tell it thee?"
"Am I a Jew?" said Pilate, "the Chief Priests,
and thine own nation have delivered Thee
into mine hand. What therefore hast thou done?"
But Jesus answered him: "Not of this world
245 my kingdom is, else would my servants fight.
But now is my kingdom not from hence."—"Art Thou
a king then?" Pilate asked the second time.

THE CHRIST OF THE AGES

Jesus made answer: "Thou sayest that I am
a king, and verily into the world came I
250 for this same cause, and to this end was born,
that I should witness bear unto the truth.
Everyone, that is of the truth, heareth my voice."
Then Pontius Pilate, saying: "What is truth?"
went out to the Chief Priests, Elders, and Scribes,
255 and spake: "I find in the Man no fault at all."

*The
governor
marvelleth
at the
silence of
Jesus, and
260 sendeth
him unto
Herod*

When they accused him, Jesus answered not
wherefore the Governor said to Him: "Behold,
how many things they witness against Thee."
And Jesus answered him to never a word,
260 in so much that he greatly marvelled. They
waxed notwithstanding the more fierce, and said:
"He stirreth up the people everywhere,
teaching throughout all Jewry to this place,
beginning from Galilee." So soon therefore
265 as Pilate knew that Jesus came indeed
from Galilee, of Herod's jurisdiction,
he sent Him unto Herod, who at that time
was also in Jerusalem.

*Judas doth
repent him
of his
270 treason
and
hangeth
himself*

But when he saw
that Jesus was condemned of the Chief Priests,
270 Judas repented himself, and brought to them
the thirty pieces of silver, and said: "I have sinned,
in that I did betray the innocent blood."
But they made answer: "What is that to us?
See thou to it." So in the temple he cast
275 the thirty pieces down, departed and went

THE PASSION

and straightway hanged himself. But the chief priests
the thirty pieces of silver took and said :

“It is not lawful in the treasury
to put them, for they be the price of blood.”

- 280 And after taking counsel, they bought therewith
to bury strangers in, the potter’s field :
wherefore unto this day that field was called
‘Aceldama’ (in their proper tongue, the field
of blood).

*Herod
examineth
Jesus, and
mocketh
him*

- 285 Now, Herod, hearing at sundry times
of the Lord’s mighty works—and sore perplexed
for that some said Elijah had appeared ;
and others, risen again, one of the old
prophets ; and others some, that he was John,
the Baptist, whom for an oath’s sake himself
290 in prison beheaded—had desired to see
of a long season Jesus, and was glad
exceedingly, and hoped that he would work
some notable miracle. Wherefore, when the Chief

Priests

- and Scribes had stood and vehemently accused
295 Jesus in many words, Herod began
to question with Him, but He would not speak.
Then Herod arrayed Him in a gorgeous robe,
and with his men of war set Him at naught,
and sent Him back unto the Governor.
300 But Pontius Pilate and Herod, at enmity
between themselves before, were that same day
made friends together !

THE CHRIST OF THE AGES

*Pontius
Pilate
maketh
three
attempts
to set
Jesus at
liberty*

Now the Governor
knew that for envy the Chief Priests and Scribes
delivered Jesus; and yearly it was his wont
to release unto the people at the feast
one prisoner whomsoever they desired;
and the people were gathered together that he should do
after his custom, and in the judgment seat
Pilate was set. But his wife sent unto him,
310 saying: "Have thou naught to do with this Just Man;
for I because of Him in dream this day
have suffered many things." Then the Governor
called the Rulers of the people and the Chief Priests
and said to them: "Ye have brought this Man to me
315 as one perverting the nation. And behold,
I have examined Him before you, and found
no fault in him as touching all those things
whereof ye do accuse Him; no, nor yet
Herod, the tetrarch, to whom I sent you. Naught
320 is done of him worthy at all of death.
But a custom have you that I should release
one prisoner at the Passover unto you.
Him therefore, after I have chastised Him first,
I will release." Then to the people he spake:
325 "Whom will ye that I set at liberty
Barabbas, or Jesus which is called the Christ,
King of the Jews?" But the Elders and Chief Priests
persuaded the multitude that they should ask
Barabbas, the robber and murderer, and destroy
330 Jesus; so, when the Governor asked again:
"Whether will ye of the twain that I release?"
they cried aloud; and the voices of the Chief Priests

THE PASSION

- prevailed: "Barabbas! Barabbas! Not this man."
And the Governor spake, desirous to release
335 Jesus: "What shall I do with Him ye call
Christ, King of the Jews?" And they with one accord
cried out: "Let him be crucified!" Again
asked Pilate: "Why, what evil hath he done?"
And with loud voice the more exceedingly
340 they cried out: "Crucify him! Crucify!"
Yet the third time spake Pilate unto them;
and they were instant all, requiring him
that Jesus be put to death. The Governor,
when nothing he prevailed, but rather saw
345 a tumult made, caused water to be brought
and washed his hands before the multitude,
saying: "Behold, of the blood of this Just Man
I am innocent. See ye to it." And they
answered: "On us and on our children be
350 his blood." So, Pilate, willing to content
the people, released Barabbas unto them;
but Jesus he delivered to be scourged.

- The
soldiers
of the
governor
cruelly
mock Jesus
after that
he is
scourged* 355 After the soldiers of the Governor
had stripped and scourged Him, they platted of sharp
thorns
a crown, clothed Him in purple, and put a reed
in his right hand, and on his head the crown
of thorns, and bowed the knee to Him and mocked,
and began to worship Him and to salute,
saying: "Hail, King of the Jews." And in his face
360 they spat, and took the reed out of his hand,
and smote Him on the head.

THE CHRIST OF THE AGES

*Thrice
again doth
the
governor
attempt to
release
him*

When the governor
beheld him so, he went to the people and said :
"Lo, again I bring Him forth, that ye may know
how I find in Him no fault." And Jesus came
wearing the crown of thorns, and scarlet robe,
365 and Pilate saith to them : "Behold the MAN."
Howbeit when the Chief Priests and Officers saw
they cried out : "Crucify Him! Crucify!"
"Take ye him then," saith Pilate "and crucify,
370 for I have found no fault at all in Him."
The Chief Priests said : "We have a law whereby
because he made himself the Son of God
He ought to die." When Pilate heard, he went
the more afraid into the judgment hall
375 and saith to Jesus : "Whence art Thou?" But he
no answer made. "Answerest thou me not?"
saith Pilate, "Knowest thou not that I have power
to crucify Thee, and power to release?"
Jesus saith : "Thou couldst have no power at all
380 against Me, except it were given thee from above ;
theirs that into thine hand delivered me
is therefore the greater sin." Wherefore the more
sought Pilate to release him. But th' Chief Priests
cried out : "Thou art, if thou let this man go,
385 not Cæsar's friend! Whosoever maketh himself
king, against Cæsar speaketh." The governor
brought Jesus forth, and sat in the judgment seat
and said : "Behold your King!" But they cried out :
"Away with him! Crucify him! Crucify!"
390 And Pilate saith : "What, shall I crucify

THE PASSION

your KING?" Then answered the Chief Priests, the
Scribes,
the Elders and all the people: "We have no KING—
but Cæsar!" So Pontius Pilate, the governor,
delivered Jesus up unto their will
395 to crucify Him.

*On the
way to
Golgotha
Jesus
comforteth
them that
weep for
him*

When they had taken off
the purple robe, with his own garment clad,
they led Him forth outside the city gate
to crucify Him; and by the way they met
Simon, the Cyrenéan, whom they compelled
to bear the cross of Jesus after him.
Moreover there followed a great company
of people, and women also which bewailed
and lamented him. But Jesus turned and said:
"For me, O daughters of Jerusalem,
405 weep not, but for your children and yourselves.
For lo! the days come wherein men shall say
to the mountains 'fall on us!' and to the hills
'cover us!' Blessèd are the barren, the wombs
that brought not forth, the breasts that gave not suck."

*Jesus is
crucified,
and he
prayeth
for them
that in
ignorance*

410 As they were therefore come unto the place
called of the skull,—and in the Hebrew tongue
Golgotha, Calvary—the soldiers mocked
Jesus, and offered him wine mingled with myrrh,
which, after he had tasted, He would not drink.
415 Then stripped the soldiers all his raiment off,
and laid Him on the cross, and drave the nails

THE CHRIST OF THE AGES

*sinned
against
him*

piercing his hands and feet ; and over his head
made fast the superscription Pilate wrote,
and set the cross upright ; and hanged the twain,
420 which were led out with him to be put to death,
upon his right hand one, and on his left
the other malefactor.—In their midst,
crucified, Jesus prayed for them : “O Father
forgive them, for they know not what they do.”
425 Howbeit, the soldiers took, and in four parts
parted his raiment, and his vesture woven
from the top throughout, seamless, they would not rend,
but said : “Let us cast lots whose it shall be.”
These things the soldiers did, and sat and watched.

*The
people
mock Jesus
as he
hanged
on the
cross*

430 Much people also stood beholding Him,
and many passed that way, (for the place was nigh
unto the city) which read the title writ
in Hebrew, in Latin, and in Greek : “This man
is Jesus of Nazareth,—the King of the Jews.”
435 Wherefore to the governor the Chief Priests sent,
saying : “Write thou not, we pray thee : ‘King of the
Jews’
but that he boasted : ‘I am the King of the Jews.’ ”
And Pilate said “I have writ what I have writ.”
Nevertheless the people wagged their heads
440 and railed at Jesus. “Thou that wouldst destroy
the temple, and build it without hands again
in three days, save Thyself ; yea, from the cross
if Thou *be* Christ, the Chosen of God, come down.”
The soldiers also mocked him : “If Thou *be*
445 King of the Jews, come down now from the cross.”

THE PASSION

Likewise the Chief Priests murmured among themselves
with the Elders and the Scribes, deriding him :

“Others he saved, himself he can not save!

let Christ, the King of Israel, from the Cross

450 descend that we may see Him and believe!

In God he trusted, let God deliver him

if God will have him, for Himself he called

the Son of God.”

*Jesus
careth
for his
bereaved
mother*

But, by the cross there stood
the Mother of Jesus, and Mary Magdalene,
455 and others also which had followed Him
from Galilee, and wept, and kissed his feet.
When Jesus therefore saw his Mother, and John,
he saith to Mary: “Woman behold thy son.”
And to the disciple whom he loved: “Behold
460 thy Mother.” And John took Mary from that hour
to his own home.

*His word
of promise
to the thief
that
prayed
to be
remem-
bered of
the Lord*

Now one of the two thieves
which hung to either hand of Jesus, cast
the same words in his teeth wherewith the priests
had railed at him: “Save thou thyself and us,
465 if Thou be Christ.” But the other thief rebuked
his fellow: “Fearest thou not God, which art
in the selfsame condemnation?—and justly we,
receiving of our deeds the due reward,—
yet nothing amiss at all hath this man done.”
470 To Jesus then he said: “Remember me
when Thou art come into thy kingdom, Lord.”
And Jesus therefore answered: “Verily, thou
shalt be to-day in Paradise with Me.”

THE CHRIST OF THE AGES

*Jesus
giveth up 475
the ghost
after
drinking
of the
vinegar
which the 480
soldiers
offered
him*

At the sixth hour was darkness till the ninth.
And about that hour cried Jesus with loud voice
"Eloi, Eloi," (that is "My God, my God,")
"why hast thou forsaken me?" And hearing Him,
a soldier straightway ran and took a sponge
and filled it full of vinegar, and spake:
"This man calleth Elijah!" But the rest
said: "Let alone, and see whether Elijah
will come to save Him!" Jesus cried again:
"I thirst." And in the vessel of vinegar
they dipped the sponge, and put it on a reed
485 unto his mouth; and knowing that all things
accomplished were, that the Scripture be fulfilled
Jesus received the vinegar, and drank
saying: "It is fulfilled! Father, into thy hands
I commend my spirit," and cried with a loud voice
490 and bowed his head, and yielded up the ghost.

*Portents
and
marvels at
the hour of
the Lord's
death; the 495
conversion
of the
centurion
and the
fear of all
save those 500
that loved
him*

And lo! the sun was darkened, and in the midst
from top to bottom the vail of the temple tare,
the earth quaked, and the rocks rent, and many graves
opened, and the bodies of the saints which slept
arose and came out of the graves, and went
into the Holy City, and there appeared
afterward unto many. When, therefore
the centurion, watching Jesus, saw the earth
quake, as he cried thus and gave up the ghost,
glorified God; and they that with him were,
feared greatly, for he said: "This of a truth
was a righteous man, the Son of God." And all
which had come forth together to the sight,

THE PASSION

seeing those things, returned, and smote their breasts.
505 But his acquaintance stood yet afar off,
and the women which had ministered to him,
Salome, amongst them, Mother of the sons
of Zebedee, and Mary, Mother of James,
with the other Mary, Mary Magdalene.
510 And the thick darkness covered the whole land.

TRANSCRIPT VII

The Risen Christ

*The
women go
to the
sepulchre
on the
first day*

- 1 As in the morning early it began
to dawn toward the first day, the mother of James,
Joanna, Salome, and Mary Magdalene,
(which had, the even the Lord was crucified,
5 brought spices sweet, and rested, as the Law
commanded, on the Sabbath) went together
to see the sepulchre where he was laid,
and, with the precious ointment they prepared,
to anoint his body. Wherefore among themselves
10 they questioned: "Who from the door of the sepulchre
shall roll us the stone away?"

*Of the
burial
given to
the body
of Jesus
by two
disciples*

- For a rich man
honorable, good and just, which, secretly
a disciple, waited for the kingdom of God,—
Joseph of Arimathea,—had gone and begged
15 boldly the body, whom the Governor
gave leave to take it from the cross. Then came
Nicodemus also, (which aforetime spake
for Jesus,) bringing of aloes and of myrrh
a mixture; and they took the body down
20 and bare it, wound in a fine linen cloth,
to Joseph's own new tomb where never man
was laid before, hewn in a garden nigh
to Golgotha, out of the rock. And Mary,

THE CHRIST OF THE AGES

mother of James, and Mary Magdalene
25 had followed after and beheld them roll
a great stone to the door of the sepulchre.

*The angel
rolleth
away the
stone and
Mary
Magdalene
runneth to
tell Peter
and John*

Now while it yet was dark, behold the earth
quaked greatly, and the angel of the Lord
from heaven descended, (and although the Scribes
30 and the Chief Priests had made the sepulchre sure,
and sealed the stone) he came and rolled it back
and sat thereon, his raiment white as snow
his countenance like to lightning; and the watch
for fear of him did shake exceedingly,
35 becoming as dead men. The women found,
when therefore at the rising of the sun
they came unto the sepulchre, the stone
rolled back, and forthwith Mary Magdalene
runneth to Peter and saith: "They have taken away
40 the Lord, and where they have laid him know we not."
And Peter and the disciple Jesus loved
arose, and ran to see if it were so.

*The angel
appeareth
unto the
other
women*

But ere they came unto the sepulchre
the women, which with Mary Magdalene
45 had seen the stone rolled back, were sore perplexed
beholding not the body of the Lord,
and lo! in shining garments standing by
an angel, and they bowed their faces down,
affrighted to the earth. And the angel spake:
50 "I know that ye seek Jesus of Nazareth.
Be not afraid. He is risen. Among the dead
why seek ye here the Living ONE? Behold

THE RISEN CHRIST

the place where the Lord lay, and quickly go
and tell his disciples how that from the dead
55 He is risen, and goeth into Galilee
before you, where, as He said, ye shall see HIM.
Lo, I have told you." From the sepulchre
quickly the women fled; nor by the way
spake aught thereof to any man, amazed
60 and trembling with great fear and joy.

*Peter and
John visit
the tomb,
but see not
the angel*

Now John
outran Peter and came to the sepulchre
the first; and stooping down, and looking, saw
the linen clothes lying apart. But Peter,
following him, went in, and with him John,
65 and saw the linen clothes, and by itself
together wrapped the napkin which had been
about the head of Jesus; and they went,
at what had come to pass much wondering,
to their own home.

*Two
angels
appear
unto Mary
Magda-
lene, and
then the
Lord
himself*

But at the sepulchre
70 stood Mary Magdalene without, and wept
and stooped and looked, and lo! one at the head
and at the feet the other, where had lain
the body of Jesus, in long white raiment clothed,
two angels sitting, which unto Mary say:
75 "Woman, why weepest thou?" She saith to them:
"They have taken away the Lord, and I know not
where they have laid Him." Turning herself about
when she had spoken thus, she saw the Lord,
(but knew Him not,) who saith: "Why weepest thou

THE CHRIST OF THE AGES

80 woman? Whom dost thou seek?" She saith
(supposing him to be the gardener): "Sir,
where thou hast laid Him, if thou have borne Him
hence,
tell me, and I will go, and take Him away."
Jesus saith: "Mary!" and she turned herself
85 and cried: "My Master," and held him by the feet
and worshipped Him. But Jesus saith to her:
"Touch me not, for not yet am I ascended
unto my Father. Tell my brethren: Lo,
I ascend unto my Father and your Father,
90 my God and your God."

*Jesus
appeareth
also unto
the other
women*

While the other women
yet ran to bring the apostles word, behold,
Jesus met them saying: "All hail! Be not afraid.
Go, tell my brethren that in Galilee
they shall behold Me!" Howbeit, when all these things
95 were told the eleven, and such as mourned with them,
and wept,—and that he had been seen alive,—
as idle tales, their words believed they not.

*As
Cleophas
and
another
disciple
journeyed
toward
Emmaus*

But two of them to Emmaus that same day went
and talked together of what had come to pass.
100 While thereabout they reasoned and communed,
Jesus himself drew near and walked with them;
but holden were their eyes, nor knew they Him,
who said: "What manner of communications these
ye have the one with the other as ye walk
105 thus sad at heart?" And Cleophas said: "Art Thou
a stranger only in Jerusalem
and hast not known the things which are these days

THE RISEN CHRIST

*Jesus
joineth
them, and
reasoneth
with them
of the
Christ and
of his
sufferings*

there to come to pass? And Jesus said to them:
 "What things?"—"Concerning Jesus of Nazareth,
 110 which was a prophet mighty in deed and word
 before God and all the people" (then answered they,)
 "how our chief priests and rulers delivered Him
 to be condemned to death and crucified:
 but we had trusted that it had been He
 115 which should redeem Israel! And besides all this,
 it is the third day since these things were done.

Yea, and certain women of our company
 made us astonished, saying that they had seen
 a vision of angels (when at the sepulchre
 120 early, they found his body not) which said
 that Jesus was alive! And twain of us
 went to the tomb and found it even so
 as said the women, but they saw not Him."
 Then Jesus spake: "O fools, and slow of heart!
 125 Ought not Christ so to have suffered as ye say,
 to enter into his glory?" And the things
 in all the Scriptures which concerned Himself
 beginning at Moses, made He clear to them.

*Jesus
maketh
himself
known,
and they
hasten to
tell the
other
disciples
thereof*

But when unto Emmaus they drew nigh
 130 He made as though he would have further gone;
 and they constrained him saying: "Abide with us,
 for lo, it is toward evening, and the day
 far spent." Then tarried He. And, as at meat
 He sat him down with them, behold, He took
 135 bread, blessed it, brake, and gave to them thereof;
 and opened were their eyes immediately,
 and they knew the Lord, who vanished from their sight.

THE CHRIST OF THE AGES

Then said they one to another: "Did not our hearts
burn hot within us when by the way He talked?"

140 And that same hour arose they, and returned
unto Jerusalem, and found the eleven
gathered together, and the residue
that were at meat with them, and told them all,
And how He was known to them in the Breaking of
Bread.

*Jesus
appeareth
unto the
disciples
assembled
together
in the up-
per room*

145 But while they spake thus, some believing not,
their word (and for fear of the High Priests and
Scribes,
the doors being shut fast) Jesus himself appeared
in their midst standing, and saying: "Peace be unto
you."

But they, supposing they had seen a spirit,
150 were terrified. "Why are ye troubled?" He said.
"Behold, it is I myself. Handle and see
for a spirit hath not flesh and bones as I."
Then shewed he them his wounded hands and feet,
and also his side, which one of the soldiers pierced
155 (when dead they found him hanging on the cross,
and freely blood and water flowed therefrom).
Then were the disciples glad exceedingly.

*The Lord
appeareth
unto
Thomas
and the
rest of the
disciples*

But Thomas, surnamed Didymus, of the twelve,
who was not with them when they saw the Lord,
160 answered and said: "Except in hands and feet
I see the print of the nails, and put therein
My finger, and thrust my hand into his side
never will I believe." After eight days,
the disciples being gathered within, the doors

THE RISEN CHRIST

- 165 shut fast, came Jesus again saying: "Peace
be unto you!—Thy finger, Thomas reach,
hither. Behold, and touch the wound prints of the
nails,
and thrust thy hand into my side. Nor be
faithless!" But Thomas answered him, "My Lord
170 yea, and my God!"—"Because thine eyes have seen
believest thou?" spake Jesus. "Verily,
blessed be they which seeing not, shall believe!"

*The Lord
appeareth
unto seven
disciples
by the
Lake of
Galilee*

- Now Simon by the Lake of Galilee
to Thomas, James, John and Nathaniël
175 and other twain, disciples, saith: "I go
a-fishing." And they say: "We go with thee."
Forth went they therefore, and immediately
entered into a ship, and nothing that night
they caught. But in the morning on the shore
180 stood Jesus (and they knew not it was He)
which said: "My children, have ye any meat?"
They answered him: "Nay, Master." "Cast" he said
"your net to the right side, and ye shall find."
Wherefore they cast, and were not able now
185 to draw it for the multitude of fish.
Then John saith unto Simon: "It is the Lord!"
And Peter, girding his fisher's coat about,
threw himself into the sea to reach the shore.
The other disciples in a little ship
190 came dragging the net. As soon as they were come
to land, they saw a fire of coals, and fish
and bread thereon. Saith Jesus: "Come and dine!"
And none of them durst ask Him: "Who art thou?"

THE CHRIST OF THE AGES

195 knowing that it was the Lord. Then took he bread
and likewise fish, and gave them all thereof.

*Jesus thrice
asketh
Peter of
his love
and thrice
chargeth
him, and
rebuketh
him for
desiring to
know more
than his
own duty*

So, when they had broken fast, the Lord Jesus said:
"Simon, thou son of Jonah, lovest thou Me
More than these love Me?" Simon saith: "Yea Lord,
Thou knowest that I love Thee." Jesus saith:
200 "Feed thou my lambs." And asked a second time:
"Simon, thou son of Jonah, lovest thou Me?"
he saith: "Yea, Lord, Thou knowest that I love
Thee." Jesus answered: "Tend my sheep." Again
the third time Jesus saith: "Lovest thou Me,
205 Simon thou son of Jonah?" Peter then
was grieved, and said: "All things thou knowest, Lord.
Thou knowest that I love Thee." Jesus saith:
Feed thou my sheep. And verily, verily
Simon, I say unto thee: when thou wast young
210 thou girdedst thyself, and wentest whither thou
would'st;
but when thou shalt be old, thou shalt stretch forth
thy hands, and another shall gird and carry thee
whither thou wouldest not." When he had spoken thus
He saith: "Follow Me." Peter, turning him about,
215 saw then the disciple Jesus loved, which leaned
at supper on his breast, following Him,
and Peter said: "Lord, what shall this man do?"
And Jesus answered: "If I will that he
tarry until I come, what is that to thee?"
220 Follow thou Me!"

*Jesus
giveth the
evangelical*

Then went into the Mount
where Jesus had appointed them, the eleven,

THE RISEN CHRIST

*com-
mission
unto his
apostles*

and saw and worshipped Him. And Jesus spake :
"All power in heaven and earth is given to me ;
go ye, and teach all nations, and baptize
225 in the Name of the Father, therefore, and of the Son
and of the Holy Ghost. And lo, with you
always, even unto the end of the world am I."
And they said : "Lord, so be it. Amen. Amen."

*Jesus
giveth his
disciples
his last
instruc-
tion and
repeateth
the com-
mission to
preach the
Gospel*

230 Now when the forty days drew to a close
since he was risen, He in Jerusalem
assembled his disciples together and taught,
and opened their understanding, how it behooved
the Christ to suffer so, and the third day
to rise, and that remission of sins be preached
235 among all nations in his Name. "And ye"
He said "of all these things are witnesses.
Behold, I send the promise of my Father
upon you, wherefore in Jerusalem
tarry, until with power from on high
240 ye be endued." And out toward Bethany
He led them upon Olivet, and they asked :
"Lord, wilt Thou at this time restore again
to Israel the kingdom?" And he said :
" 'T is not for you to know the times, which none
245 knoweth ; yea, not the Son, but the Father only,
which in his power hath put them. But, ye shall
not many days hence be with the Holy Ghost
baptized, and power shall ye receive that ye
may unto the uttermost part of the whole earth
250 be witnesses to Me. Then go ye forth
and preach My Gospel to every creature, and he

THE CHRIST OF THE AGES

whosoever believeth shall cast out in my Name
devils, and speak with new tongues; and if serpents
he take up, or drink of any deadly thing
255 it shall not hurt him; and he shall lay his hands
upon the sick, and they shall recover them
of their diseases."

*Jesus
ascendeth
unto
heaven,
and angels
bid his
disciples
return
into the
holy city*

So, while yet he spake
He lifted up his hands, and blessing them
was parted from them, and carried into heaven,
260 and of a cloud received out of their sight,
and sat him down at the right hand of God.
While yet he went up, steadfastly toward heaven
they looked, and worshipped Him. And lo, two men
stood by in white apparel arrayed, which said:
265 "Ye men of Galilee, wherefore stand ye here
upgazing into heaven? Behold, this same
Jesus which into heaven is taken, yea, HE
shall in like manner come, as into heaven
ye have *this* day seen Him go." And with great joy
270 unto Jerusalem from Mount Olivet
returned they then; and they were praising God
in the temple, and blessing Him continually.

*The
descent of
the Holy
Spirit*

When the day of Pentecost was fully come,
and the disciples all, with one accord,
275 were in one place assembled—(the upper room
where they in prayer and supplication abode
with Mary the Mother of Jesus) suddenly
as of a rushing and a mighty Wind,
there came a sound from heaven which filled the house;
280 and cloven tongues like as of Fire appeared,

THE RISEN CHRIST

which sat on each of them, and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost. And they began, to speak aloud as the Spirit gave them utterance, with other tongues.

- | | | |
|---|-----|---|
| <i>There
came unto
the
disciples
many
devout men</i> | 285 | there were of every nation under heaven devout men gathered against the feast ; which came together, when it was noised abroad, and said one to another, confounded and amazed :—
“What, are not these which speak Galileans all ? |
| | 290 | How then do we hear them speaking every one in our own tongues wherein each of us was born ? Parthians, Medes, Elamites, inhabitants of Mesopotamia, Pontus, Asiä, Phrygia, Pamphilia, Cappadociä, |
| | 295 | dwellers in Egypt, the parts of Lybiä about Cyrene, sojourners from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Arabians, Cretes, we hear them tell the wonderful works of God !” |
| <i>unto whom
Peter
preacheth
that Jesus
is Christ ;
and the
Church
waxed
strong</i> | 305 | But Peter, standing up with the eleven preached to them Jesus crucified and risen, both Lord and Christ. And they which did receive gladly his word, and were on that same day baptized of him, numbered three thousand souls, which in the apostle’s doctrine steadfastly abode with joy and singleness of heart, in fellowship, Breaking of Bread, and prayers. And they had all things common ; sold their goods, and parted them as every man had need. |

THE CHRIST OF THE AGES

- And many miracles and signs were wrought
310 in the name of the Holy One, the Prince of Life,
at the hands of the apostles ; for they gave
witness with power of the rising of the Lord.
And they had favor with the people, and grace
was on them all, and fear in every soul ;
315 yea, in so much that daily to the Church
were added many whom the Lord would save ;
and the number of the disciples multiplied.
But the Chief Priests were cut to the quick and grieved
that in the Name of Jesus Christ they preached
320 the resurrection from the dead.

*Of Saul's
wrath
against
the Church
of Christ*

- Then 'rose
a grievous persecution of the Church ;
and zealous toward God was Saul, in Tarsus born,
a city of Cilicia, but brought up
after the straitest sect a Pharisee,
325 in Jerusalem sitting at Gamaliel's feet.
And verily he thought within himself
that all things contrary unto the Name
of Jesus of Nazareth he ought to do.
And entering into every house, Saul haled
330 (having from the Chief Priests authority)
both men and women, many of the saints,
and cast them into prison ; punishing some
in every synagogue, and to blaspheme
compelling others, he also gave his voice
335 when they were put to death. Howbeit the Church
throughout Judæa and Samariä
scattered abroad, preached everywhere "the Way."

THE RISEN CHRIST

But Saul, when he had heard thereof, was mad
exceedingly, and breathed out threatenings
340 and slaughter against the disciples of the Lord.
And of the Priests and Elders he desired
letters unto the synagogues, giving him
commission from strange cities to bring back
all, whether men or women, of "this Way"
345 whom he might take, bound to Jerusalem.

*On the
way to
Damascus
he recall-
eth to mind
the mar-
tyrdom
of Stephen*

Wherefore, Saul, toward Damascus journeying,
thought by the way how Stephen, full of faith
and power, among the people so great miracles
had wrought, till certain of the synagogue
350 of the Libertines, unable to resist
the wisdom and the Spirit by which he spake,
had stirred up the Elders of the people and the Scribes,
and come upon him, and caught him; and suborned
false witnesses which said: "We have heard him speak
355 against Moses blasphemous words and against God."
And all that sat in the council saw his face,
as though it had been the face of an angel looking
steadfastly into heaven, and he said:—"Behold
I see the heavens opened, and the glory of God,
360 and the Son of Man, Jesus of Nazareth,
standing at the right hand of the Holy One!"
Then cried they out with a loud voice, and gnashed
their teeth, and stopped their ears, and ran on him
with one accord, and out of the city cast
365 Stephen, and stoned him. And the witnesses
had laid their clothes down at the feet of Saul.
And Saul remembered him how Stephen prayed

THE CHRIST OF THE AGES

as they were stoning him: "My spirit receive,
Lord Jesus," and kneeling down, had cried again:
370 "Lord Jesus, lay not to their charge this sin."

*The vision
of Jesus
that
appeared
unto Saul
by the way*

As Saul, thus pondering all within himself,
came nigh unto Damascus, suddenly
there shined, above the brightness of the sun
at mid day, round about him a great Light
375 from heaven. And Saul, and they that with him were
fell to the earth; and Saul did hear a Voice
which said: "Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou ME?"
Wherefore Saul answering cried: "Who art thou
Lord?"

And the Lord said: "I am Jesus of Nazareth
380 whom thou dost persecute. Lo, it is hard
for thee to kick against the pricks." And Saul
spake, trembling and astonished: "What wilt thou
Lord,

have me to do?" And the Lord said: "Arise!
and stand upon thy feet. I have appeared
385 to make of thee a minister, and send
unto the Gentiles, thee—that thou should'st turn,
opening their eyes, from darkness unto light
many,—from the power of Satan unto God—
that they receive forgiveness of their sins,
390 and (among them which are, by faith in Me
sanctified,) an inheritance. Behold,
of these things, thou hast seen, and also those
wherein I will appear yet unto thee,
I make thee witness. Wherefore rise and go
395 into Damascus. There thou shalt be told

THE RISEN CHRIST

what things soever I have appointed thee
to do." From the earth then Saul arose and saw
for the glory of the great light which he had seen
no man ; and was into Damascus led
400 by them which were with him to the street called
Straight
where at the house of Judas he abode, three days
praying, without sight, neither did eat nor drink.

*Saul
recovereth
his sight* 405 And Ananias came to him, a man
devout according to the law, and said :
"Brother Saul, the Lord, even Jesus that appeared
in the way as thou camest hither, sendeth me,
that thou through me mightest thy sight receive,
and with the Holy Ghost be filled." Forthwith
from the eyes of Saul there fell as it had been scales,
410 and he received his sight. And Ananias said :
"The God of our Fathers hath chosen thee to know
His will, and that the Just One thou shouldst see,
and hear the voice of his mouth. Why tarriest thou?
Arise and be baptized, and wash away
415 thy sins, and on the Name of the Lord Jesus call."

*and
preacheth
that Jesus
is very
Christ* 420 Immediately Saul arose and was baptized
and preached Christ in the Synagogues, that indeed
He is the Son of God. And greatly amazed
were all, saying: "Is not this the man which came
to bring back bound unto Jerusalem
them of that Way?" And Saul increased in strength
and confounded them which at Damascus dwelt.
Now many other things did Jesus do,

THE CHRIST OF THE AGES

but these are written that ye might believe
425 Jesus is very Christ, and Son of God;
and that believing, ye might in his Name
have life. Behold he cometh quickly. Amen.
Even so, Lord Jesus come! Amen. Amen.

TRANSCRIPT VIII

A Vision of the Last Things

I

*On the day
of the
creation of
light and
of the
Lord's
resurrec-
tion a
vision is
vouchsafed*

Behold, on the Lord's day
(whether out of the body, God
knoweth, I can not tell.)
caught up to Paradise
5 I heard in the third heaven
unspeakable things, for man
unlawful to utter.

2

*wherein is
seen the
Son of man
riding
forth to
war
against
the wicked
of earth*

For, as of a trumpet, cried
behind me a great Voice:
10 "I am Alpha and Omega
the First, the Last."
Then open beheld I the heaven,
and lo! a white horse,
and He which rideth thereon
15 hath eyes as flame of fire;
the crowns upon his head
are many, and red in blood
his vesture is dipped and dyed.
For the winepress of the wrath
20 and fierceness of the Almighty
He hath trod alone, and war

THE CHRIST OF THE AGES

He maketh in righteousness.
The nations smiteth He all,
and ruleth them every one
25 with a rod of iron ; his Name
is writ upon his vesture :
the Faithful, the True
the Word of God, the King
of Kings, and the Lord
30 of Lords !

3

<i>with him are the armies of heaven, which sing of their divine Captain as they ride to battle</i>	In fine linen white and clean— the righteousness of saints— arrayed, 35 riding on horses white, behold, the armies which are in heaven, the Hosts of the living God, follow Him ; yea, and who 40 shall tell the number of them : ten thousand times ten thousand, thousands of thousands, more than the sand by the shore of the sea, than the stars for multitude, 45 crying with a loud voice as the voice of many waters, yea, and as the voice of mighty thunderings :— “Worthy is the Lion, 50 the Lion of the tribe
---	---

A VISION OF THE LAST THINGS

of Judah, that coucheth him
when gone up from the prey.
Yea, worthy is the Lamb,
He which was slain, to receive

55 power and riches
and wisdom and strength
and honour and glory
and blessing forevermore!"

4

*The hosts
of the
adversary
of the
Lord
Christ are
mustered
to meet
the armies
of heaven*

Behold!
60 The horsehoofs stamp
by reason of the prancings,
the prancings of the mighty!
Behold!
How they go forth
65 conquering and to conquer!
For on them which pleasure take
in all iniquity,
which neither the love of the truth
nor the knowledge of God receive,
70 a strong delusion is sent
that they should put their trust
in a lie. And lo!
that wicked (Antichrist,
the Son of Perdition,)
75 above all, that as God
is worshipped of men,
exalteth himself; and with power,
with signs, and wonders deceitful,
after the working of Satan,

THE CHRIST OF THE AGES

80 sheweth that he is God
in the temple of the Lord:
and his hosts assemble them
to make war upon the Lamb,—
for the Prince of darkness
85 the Father of lies,
against the Lord of Light
and of Life.

5

*A prophecy
of the utter
defeat and
slaughter
of the
hosts of
darkness*

Hark! unto all the fowls
that fly in the midst of heaven
90 cryeth an angel which standeth
in the glory of the sun:
"Come hither and gather yourselves
unto the supper together
of the most holy God;
95 and eat ye the flesh of kings,
the flesh of captains, the flesh
of mighty men, of horses
and of them that sit thereon,
the flesh of free and bond,
100 the flesh of small and great."

6

*The Lord
Christ
judgeth
the hosts
of the
defeated*

Behold!
The Lord himself
descendeth from heaven
with a shout!
And every enemy
105 He putteth under his feet.

A VISION OF THE LAST THINGS

*and slain
enemies of
righteous-
ness*

with the spirit of his mouth
He consumeth them utterly
and with the brightness of his coming
110 destroyeth He them. They drink
of the wine of the wrath of God
without mixture into the cup
of his indignation poured.
Suddenly into the lake
115 of flaming fire they are cast ;
tormented world without end
in the presence of the angels,
and the presence of the Lamb !
And, of their torment, lo !
120 forever and ever the smoke
ascendeth, and day nor night
have the unholy rest !

7

*and prom-
iseth a
blissful
resurrec-
tion to his
servants
dead*

Then heard I a voice
out of heaven proclaim :
125 "Blessèd from henceforth are
the dead which die in the Lord,
for they from their labor have rest,
and their good works follow them !
Behold ! a mystery :
130 in a moment, at the last trump,
in the twinkling of an eye,
their corruptible hath put
incorruption on, their mortal
in the image of the heavenly
135 hath immortality indued ;

THE CHRIST OF THE AGES

yea, and death is swallowed up
in victory forever!

8

*In heaven
multitudes
gather to
celebrate
the victory*

Then saw I yet in heaven
another sign—marvellous
and great—as it were a sea
of crystal mingled with fire;
and they which had gotten them
the victory, stand
145 on the sea of glass holding
the harps of God;
and they sing the song
of the Lion,
and they sing the song
150 of the Lamb:

9

*with a
song of
damna-
tion; and
of eternal
life unto
him that
overcometh
in the
Name of
Christ*

“It is done!
I am Alpha and Omega,
the Beginning and the End.
Behold,
the fearful, the unbelieving,
the abominable of earth,
the murderers, the sorcerers,
the idolaters, and all
which make a lie, *their* part
155 is in the lake which burneth
with brimstone and with fire.
160

A VISION OF THE LAST THINGS

(1)

“But he that overcometh—
shall not by the second death
be hurt, nor by the worm
165 which dieth nevermore.

(2)

“Lo! he that overcometh—
shall in raiment white be clothed,
and his name will I confess
before my Father in heaven.

(3)

170 “Lo! he that overcometh—
if he hunger I will give him
the fruit of the tree of life
which groweth in the midst
of the Paradise of God;
175 and, if he thirst, of the fountain
of the water of life will I give,
that he may freely drink.

(4)

“Lo! he that overcometh—
I will make a pillar of him
180 in the temple of my God,
whence he shall go out no more;
and I upon him will write
the name of my God, the name
of the New Jerusalem,
185 yea, and mine own new Name.

THE CHRIST OF THE AGES

(5)

“Lo! he that overcometh—
and keepeth my works to the end,
power will I give to him
over the nations to rule
190 with a rod of iron, and break
as a potter’s vessel to shivers
their might; and I will give him
the gift of the morning star!

(6)

“Lo! he that overcometh—
195 all things shall he inherit;
and I will be his God,
and he shall be my Son.

(7)

“Lo! he that overcometh—
I will grant him with me to sit
200 in my throne, even as I overcame
and am set in my Father’s throne.”

IO

*Further-
more a
vision is
vouchsafed
of the
gathering
of all the
blessed*

Behold,
on the Lord’s day,
(whether out of the body, God
205 knoweth, I can not tell,)
I heard, out of the Throne
in heaven, a Voice which cried:
“Praise ye the Lord our God
all ye his servants, ye

158

A VISION OF THE LAST THINGS

210 which fear him small and great,
which differ as sun from moon
in glory, as star from star,
shout ye and sing for joy!"

II

*to sing a
hymn of 215
praise to
God, the
Father,
unto his
holy Son,
the Cap-
tain of
Salvation ;
in the
unity of
the One
Divine
Spirit*

Then heard I in Paradise
praising the Lord, the voice
as of a mighty multitude,
as the roar of many waters,
as of mighty thunderings :

(1)

"We give thee thanks, O Lord,
220 Almighty God, which art,
and wast, and art to come,
because thou takest to thee
thy great power, and dost reign !
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia,
225 for the Lord, the God Omnipotent,
reigneth, Amen, Amen !

(2)

"Who shall not fear thee, O Lord,
and glorify thy name?
Thou only art holy, O God ;
230 thy judgments are manifest
that all worlds worship thee.
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia,
for the Lord, the God Omnipotent,
reigneth, Amen, Amen !

THE CHRIST OF THE AGES

(3)

- 235 "The End hath come, and all things
are under the feet of the Lamb;
and the Son himself, behold,
is subject unto the Father,
that God may be all in all.
240 Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia
for the Lord, the God Omnipotent,
reigneth, Amen, Amen!

(4)

- "Let us rejoice, and be glad
and give honor to the Lamb,
245 the marriage, the marriage is come,
the feast is made ready in heaven,
the friends of the Bridegroom are called!
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia,
for the Lord, the God Omnipotent,
250 reigneth, Amen, Amen!

(5)

- "The Bride hath arrayed herself
in white; without wrinkle or spot,
holy, no blemish hath She!
Blessed are they which be called
255 to the marriage of the Lamb:
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia,
for the Lord, the God Omnipotent
reigneth world without end.
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia
260 Amen!"

AFTERWORD

IT is with strange emotions that the final revision of the proof is ended. Has it been irrevent so to use the Holy Scriptures—in an attempt to limn the portrait of the God Man? Is the result such as to justify the pains, the scruples, the doubts, and fears? It has lain now nearly four years complete, unpublished for lack of courage. One friend complained: why, you do nothing for me I could not have done for myself. Another: but the Sermon on the Mount is omitted! Another: you have unscrupulously disregarded all modern scholarship! Another: why, you invent nothing of any consequence—and I wanted a new Jesus! So it remained in my desk—occasionally looked at with misgiving and remorse.

Yet now that it is in print, I am glad. I did not desire to invent, discover, analyze and synthetise afresh, and I am glad I did not. After all it is not what I think, or you, or Strauss, or Nietzsche or some latter day Athanasius that greatly imports. It is what

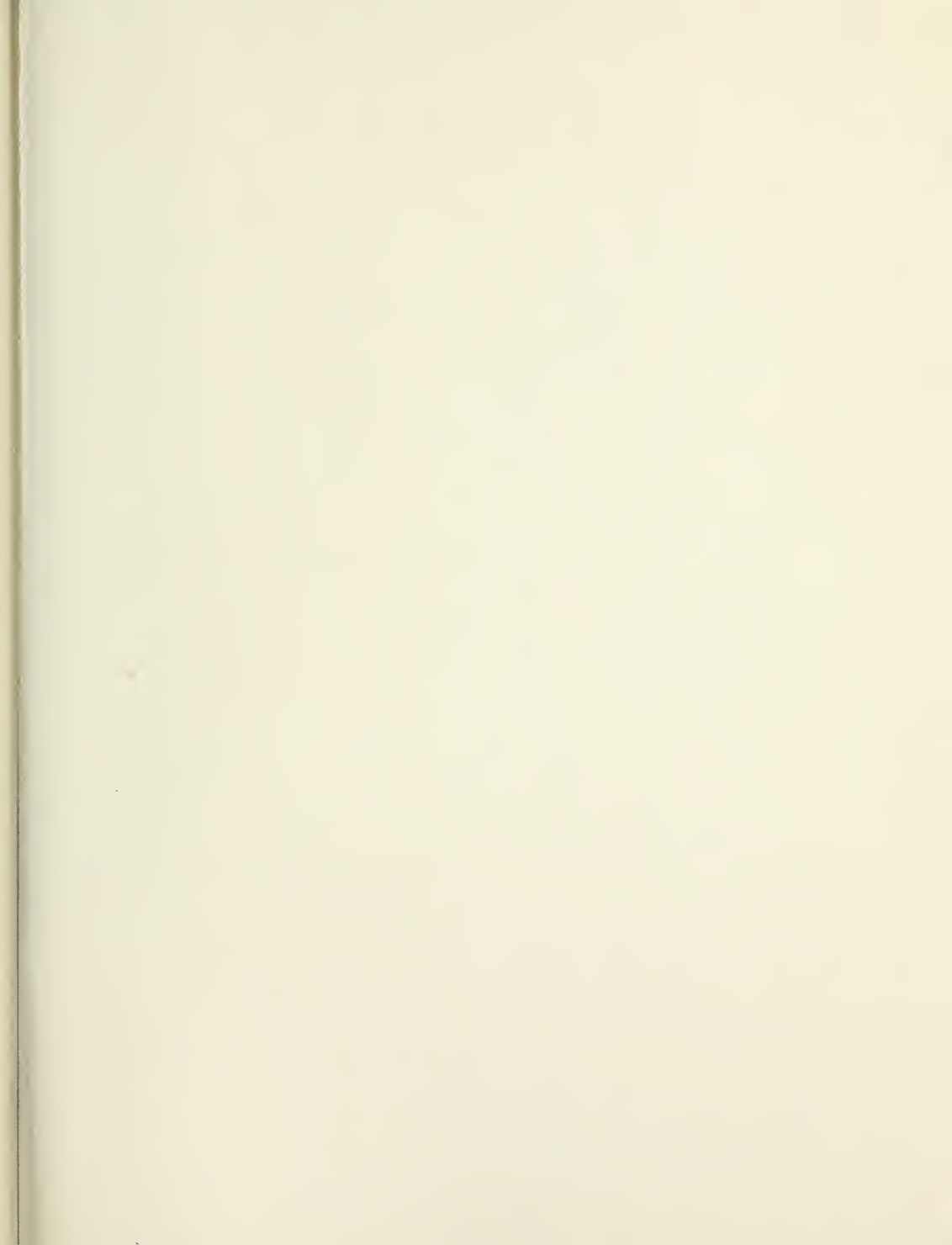
AFTERWORD

the world has vaguely felt to satisfy its demand—the Jesus it has seen in the Bible, in its own heart and whom it craves to make its Lord and God—crying out desperately “I believe, help thou mine unbelief”—it is that Jesus who alone can be King of kings, and make of earth his heaven; who should and will be painted, preached, sung, and worshipped. For, ultimately, need is the true teacher; and this Jesus hath been by need revealed of the Holy Ghost. The hungry knoweth bread. That which satisfyeth the hungry is Bread. He that worketh hard and beareth the burden of the day is authority. Who then will choose to be Author rather than Compiler?

So this Poem in Transcripts is sent forth as a Poem, not as a doctrinal treatise, a “Tendenz Schrift”—but a Poem—in transcripts—with all humility; yet with an abiding faith also that it will serve some souls, and bless them with a clearer vision of Man, and the Son of Man—which is God.

7⁴

3



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